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HOWE SETS UP UNESCO PULL-OUT

Tory MPs upset by FO economies

By NICHOLAS COMFORT Political Staff

SIR GEOFFREY HOWE, Foreign Secretary, provoked a barrage of protest from Conservative and other MPs when he announced yesterday that Britain was giving notice of withdrawal from Unesco, and that he was making economies across the board in the Foreign Office.

He told MPs that the Government would withdraw from Unesco—the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation—in 1986 unless progress were made in reforming the agency's much-criticised spending programme.

The Foreign Secretary was cheered by some Government supporters when he announced his decision on Unesco—which has been accused of anti-Western bias—but ran into immediate criticism from Mr Heath and the opposition.

Unesco's spending—
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More ominously, a series of senior Tories, including Mr Heath, Mr Pym and Mr Edward du Cann, attacked his economy package, which has been put together in an attempt to defuse a backbench campaign against originally-planned cuts in foreign aid.

Sir Geoffrey told MPs that the package would comprise the closure of ten small diplomatic missions, increased entry clearance fees for foreigners, and cuts for both the British Council and the External Services of the BBC.

And while he argued that his revised proposals on overseas aid would not involve cuts, his critics did not take that view. Some claimed privately that they had been misled the night before into thinking the economics would be more nearly restored.

A further £1.6 million would be spared by extending it to Commonwealth citizens.

He also announced that the Foreign Office would meet only £750,000 of the BBC's extra costs, leaving the corporation to find the difference, and he said that the British Council would have to make savings to cover half of the £1.4 million by which its costs were due to rise.

Culmination of

Tory row

While they made it clear that they were offering a lead both to wavering Tory loyalists and to those who had intended to rebel unless Sir Geoffrey had more to offer on overseas aid, they expected a number of Conservative MPs to vote for the Liberal motion.

Sir Geoffrey's announcement of the economy package, and the backbench reaction to it, was the culmination of a row within the Tory ranks at Westminster that began a fortnight ago, as Mr Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, prepared to announce public spending plans for next year.

MPs who had been more concerned with planned cuts to the housing and defence programmes suddenly suspected that Sir Geoffrey had given an unacceptable amount of ground to his successor at the Treasury and accepted massive cuts in the aid programme.

Mrs Thatcher baffled at Fitzgerald claims

By NICHOLAS COMFORT Political Staff

THE Prime Minister voiced "total disagreement" yesterday with claims by Dr Garret Fitzgerald, her Irish counterpart, that she had been "gratuitously offensive" to the Republic in comments she made after their Chequers summit.

"I do not understand his comment in any way," Mrs Thatcher told MPs when pressed on the issue in the Commons during question time.

Whitehall was trying yesterday to depict the argument as one which need have no lasting effect on Anglo-Irish relations. It was recognised that Mrs Thatcher's dismissal of the proposals made last spring by Dr Fitzgerald's "New Ireland Forum" was inevitable.

Rift Warning—P10



THATCHER CONDEMS UPROAR

By JAMES WIGHTMAN Political Correspondent

THE Prime Minister yesterday condemned Labour MPs who caused the suspension of the Commons sitting on Wednesday night with a demonstration against a Government change in social security benefits.

Mrs Thatcher said that the protest was a "very ugly incident" and the Speaker, Mr Weatherill, warned MPs that such conduct undermined the authority of Parliament.

The row, over the effect of the benefits change on the families of striking miners, raged on in the chamber yesterday but without any of the disruption of the night before.

The Government had announced that the £15-a-week deduction from supplementary benefit for strikers' families is to be increased to £16 because unions are deemed to give strike pay during disputes.

Emergency debate

Amid uproar, some 50 Labour MPs, mainly Left-wingers from mining constituencies, had occupied the centre of the chamber in front of the mace and refused to return to their seats.

They shouted down Mr Fowler, Health and Social Security Secretary, as he tried to deliver an emergency statement which a earlier protest by Labour MPs had forced him to come to the Commons to make.

Mr David Nettleton, MP for Coventry South-East, grabbed the text of Mr Fowler's statement.

Continued on Back P. Col 3

TELECOM HITS BUILDING SOCIETIES

By Our City Staff

B.C. EXTERNAL SERVICES, which have an estimated world audience of 100 million—more than any other international broadcaster—said last night that some damage to the service was inevitable following the £1 billion cut announced by Sir Geoffrey Howe.

Plans to restart the Caribbean service and the Asian service to Sri Lanka in September would be immediate casualties. But further detailed examination would be necessary before more decisions were taken. The cut is of roughly one per cent, which could be as much as £1,300,000 on the estimated £86 million budget for 1985-86.

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But further detailed examination would be necessary before more decisions were taken. The cut is of roughly one per cent, which could be as much as £1,300,000 on the estimated £86 million budget for 1985-86.

HOMES FLOODED IN GALE CHAOS

Gales and torrential rain brought havoc to the South East yesterday. Waves 20ft high crashed over sea defences in Kent and Sussex. Hundreds of homes were flooded, telephone and electricity lines brought down and roads flooded up to 2ft deep.

TWO HOLES-IN-ONE

Woman golfer Jean Mason, 25, of Sheldon, Devon, has holed in one on two consecutive days at the 98-yard 16th hole at Teignmouth golf club.

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Gromyko and Shultz fix date for arms talks

By DAVID SHEARS in Washington

AMERICA and Russia have agreed to meet at Foreign Minister level in Geneva on Jan. 7-8 to revive their long-dormant dialogue on curbing the nuclear arms race.

Washington and Moscow announced in a joint statement yesterday that Mr Shultz, Secretary of State, and Mr Gromyko, his Soviet counterpart, would discuss at their Geneva encounter the agenda for reviving arms control talks.

Both governments have agreed "to enter new negotiations with the objective of reaching mutually acceptable agreements on the whole range of nuclear and outer space arms."

Mr Robert McFarlane, the White House national security adviser, said the purpose of the Shultz-Gromyko meeting would be to reach a common understanding as to the subject and objective of such negotiations.

He quoted President Reagan as saying this would be "the first step on what will be a long and difficult road, but the road is clearly marked for us."

Meanwhile, American and Russian officials have just finished two days of talks in Washington on continuing America's massive grain exports to the Soviet Union.

After six successive poor harvests, Russia is expected this year to import a record 50 million tonnes of grain, and America hopes to provide at least one-third of this amount.

President Reagan has long since lifted the embargo imposed on American grain exports to Russia in response to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

And he promised American farmers troubled by sagging markets for their bumper crop that Russia could buy up to 25 million tonnes of United States grain this year. 10 million tonnes more than originally envisaged.

At around the same time Mr Shultz will be meeting Mr Gromyko, a leading United States Commerce Department official will be in Moscow heading a delegation to discuss United States-Soviet trade. Details—P4

WIVES IN PRISON BREAK INQUIRY

MRS LORRAINE KENDALL, wife of one of the two prisoners freed from a prison van ambush by a gang at Reigate on Tuesday, was interviewed yesterday at Reigate police station.

Mrs Tracy Smith, wife of the other prisoner, was still there yesterday after being held overnight helping police inquiries.

Leaders of the six Civil Service unions which were ousted from the "spy centre" are

MINISTERS 'SAVE £60m A YEAR'

By Our Political Staff

The cost of running Government departments has risen more than the rate of inflation every year since 1979-80. Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said in a Commons written reply yesterday.

He said Ministers were making savings of £60 million a year, including up to £22 million a year from a review of staffing allowances in the unemployment benefit service.

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OIL PRICES

SLIDE TO CRISIS LEVEL

By Our Business Correspondent

OIL prices weakened again on the Rotterdam "spot" market yesterday, falling close to the crisis levels, which hit sterling in July.

Crude from the Brent field of Shell-Esso in the North Sea was quoted at only \$27.30 a barrel for delivery in January, 15 cents down on the previous day.

Prices of both North Sea and Saudi crude are down by between 40 and 50 cents a barrel compared with a week ago.

City Report—P25

ISRAELI TROOPS SHOOT STUDENT

DETALS—P14

By Our Jerusalem Correspondent

SERIOUS RIOTS AND TENSION ON THE WEST BANK OF THE JORDAN, WHICH YESTERDAY COINCIDED WITH THE OPENING OF THE PALESTINE NATIONAL COUNCIL, CONTINUED YESTERDAY.

The Government intends that councils' roles will be taken over by the London boroughs and the metropolitan district councils.

The Government was determined that the GLC and the county councils, all Labour-controlled, would be abolished on March 31, 1986, he said at a press conference.

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200 MINERS' FAMILIES HIT BY £1 CUT

By DAVID FLETCHER Health Services Correspondent

FEWER than 200 miners' families would lose cash as a result of the extra £1 a week to be deducted from strikers' social security payments, the Department of Health and Social Security stated yesterday.

The vast majority of the 47,000 miners' wives claiming supplementary benefit will receive exactly the same amount when the changes are introduced next week. Those who do lose money will only lose a few pence each week.

Many wives, mostly those with children of school age, will be slightly better off.

Since the miners' strike started a total of £24,100,000 has been paid out in welfare benefits to their families. The numbers claiming last week totalled 47,115.

Under existing regulations strikers' families have £15 a week deducted from their supplementary benefit they receive to compensate for strike pay which their union is assumed to be paying.

The money is deducted irrespective of whether strike pay is actually being made. The NUM does not pay strike pay—and will rise to £22.45.

The increase exactly cancels out the extra £1 deduction.

'Banishment' warning

By Our Industrial Correspondent

WORKING MINERS would be banished from the pits when the strike is over, Mr George Rees, South Wales Area secretary of the miners' union, said yesterday.

Mr Rees has written to all working miners in South Wales, saying they will be suspended from NUM membership for crossing picket lines. As non-unionists they would no longer be able to work in the pits.

But Mr Philip Weeks, Coal Board area director, said: "The jobs of men going to work will be protected when this strike is over. I guarantee that their jobs will be fully safeguarded by the Coal Board."

NCB's strike statistics

Coal Board figures of pits working and on strike, the number of miners returning for the first time, and total numbers working yesterday:

	Normal workers	Some workers	No workers	Pits in strike	Men returning	Total working	Work-
Scotland	2	—	70	70	1,600	12,500	
N. East	2	15	2	327	2,521	20,200	
N. Yorks	—	9	3	47	492	15,000	
Doncaster	—	8	2	6	162	15,000	
Barnsley	—	11	5	18	361	13,200	
S. Yorks	—	12	5	18	1,297	15,500	
N. Derby	6	5	—	178	4,271	10,000	
Notts	25	—	—	a few	28,500	50,000	
S. Mids	11	1	5	13	11,582	12,000	
Western	9	5	—	75	10,860	14,000	
S. Wales	—	4	24	2	110	19,500	

These figures do not take account of "new starters" at coal products plants and returning clerical staff.

Men back this week near 5000

Daily Telegraph Reporter
THERE were 856 new returning miners yesterday, bringing the total so far this week to 4,982.

Coal Board officials said that all of Scotland's 10 production pits had men working. Because of a confusion in national statistics this had not been made clear in the past 10 days.

"We are delighted to say that we have men, albeit a single man at one colliery, at all 10 of our production pits. Because of a confusion over figures and statistics generally, this has not shown up before in national statistics," said a Scottish NCB official.

"Yesterday, for instance, national figures suggested we had three pits on strike—that is not so. The three pits deemed to be on strike—Polmaise, Bogside and Cardoway, are closed and were closed when the strike began. We regard these as non-production pits."

Double figures

There were 70 "new starters" in Scotland yesterday bringing the workforce there to 1,600. "This brings new starters to 600 this week and we expect this trend to continue," said a NCB spokesman.

In eight of Scotland's production pits the workforce is now in double figures. One man is working at Comrie Colliery in Fife and four at Solesire Colliery—part of the Long Annet complex in West Fife.

So far this week new starters have numbered 4,982. "It is coming along very nicely and we are very encouraged by the daily figures," the NCB spokesman said.

Solid support

The two new men had returned to work in the South Wales coal field yesterday bringing the workforce to 110 men. NCB officials said the strike was still "solidly supported" there.

North East area Coal Board officials declared the strike effectively over at Whittle Colliery in Northumberland (where 413 out of 700 men were working) and at Tursdale Colliery, Co. Durham, where 213 out of 452 returned to work.

There were 187 "new starters" in the Yorkshire coal field and in the Western area, another 75 men reported for work, swelling the work force there to 10,860.

Another 13 men reported for work in the South Midlands coal field in North Derbyshire there were 176 "new starters."

STRIKE HEARING ARRANGEMENTS

By Our Political Staff
Twelve stipendiary magistrates have been appointed to sit until Dec. 21 at Birkenhead, Chesterfield, Pontefract, Rotherham, St. Helens and Scunthorpe to deal with cases arising from the miners' strike. Sir Michael Havers, Attorney-General, said in a Commons written answer yesterday.

He told Mrs Renee Short, (Lab., Wolverhampton, North East), that further appointments would be made if requested by magistrates' courts committees.

This must throw doubt on whether the police acted lawfully earlier this year when they stopped Kent miners at the Dartford tunnel and warned them that they faced arrest if they tried to leave the county to join pickets from other areas.

£30m SHIPPING CONTRACT LOST TO W. GERMANY

By Our Shipping Correspondent
British shipbuilders is to lose more big contracts to West Germany because it does not have the equipment to enlarge four Townsend Thoresen car ferries at a cost of £50 million. "It is a very complicated job," said Mr W. J. Ayers, technical director of Ferries, which owns Townsend Thoresen. "Only a few places in Europe are equipped for such a task and British Shipbuilders does not have the necessary heavy-lift crane capability."

Townsend Thoresen wants the ships cutting in two lengthways to insert extra vehicle decks. They will also have a bigger fuel station added. The order goes to Schichau Unterweser of Bremerhaven, with preliminary steelwork to start in January and the actual conversion over a 12-month period from June.

HEATHROW TO GET OWN FORCE

By Our Crime Staff
Heathrow Airport is to have its own police force again. It had a separate force until 1974, when Scotland Yard took over during a major IRA bombing campaign.

It will become a separate district in the Metropolitan police from Jan. 1. At present the airport is the headquarters of a district which includes West Drayton, Staines and Sunbury. They will be incorporated into other districts.

PORTS CHARGES RISE

By Our Shipping Correspondent
A five per cent. increase in charges will be made by the ports of Tees and Hartlepool on January 1 after a disappointing year affected by pit and dock strikes.



Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother sheltering under an umbrella at Kempton Park yesterday as she watched her horse "Lumdale," the favourite, in the 1.45. The horse failed to finish.

COASTER BEATS BLOCKADE

By Our Industrial Staff
TRADE unions yesterday launched an investigation into how a small coastal collier, the Kindrance, beat the TUC-inspired blockade of coastal power stations and delivered 3,000 tons of Cumbrian coal to Shoreham power station in Sussex.

The vessel's coal drop is believed to be the first sea delivery of British-mined fuel to a C.E.G.B. power station since the 57-week miners' strike began.

Shoreham power station has traditionally relied for its supplies on collieries which are now strike-bound and whose pit stocks are besieged by

areas are watching the developments in Nottinghamshire with interest, and see any moves there as applying nationally.

Mr Ian MacGregor, Coal Board chairman, has told Staffordshire miners that he would not go outside accepted negotiating procedures to pay the 5·28 per cent. which had not been accepted by the N.U.M.

The North Derbyshire area N.C.B. will pay £380,000 in this week to 3,889 miners who have now worked a week in hand.

Miners starting work this week will receive between £1,500 and £2,000 gross before Christmas, which includes four weeks' holiday pay, three weeks' incentive bonuses, advance wages for Christmas week, annual holiday pay and their annual service bonuses.

There is a tax-free element on the personal allowances for those who have returned but not worked since the start of the dispute.

Out of order

The petitions are circulating at numerous pits, including Babbington and Newstead.

Mr Kenneth Duckworth, N.U.M. branch secretary at Babbington, said he would have no connection with the petitions.

"Such things as pay and overtime take place within the procedures laid down between the Board and the union.

Petitions are out of order."

Members of the National Working Miners' Committee said they would be unable to hold back any demands on pay and overtime once they start in significant numbers.

Working miners in other

£6.80 a week

Payment of the 5·28 per cent. would give coal-face workers an extra £6.80 a week,

increasing their earnings to £137·10 without overtime and

incentive payments. It would add £5 for the lowest underground grade, £5·75 on the highest surface grade and £4·80 on the lowest surface grade,

taking gross weekly earnings to £99 without bonuses.

About 40 per cent. of those employed in the pits work overtime, and the ban has resulted in a reduction of 30 per cent. in normal output.

Demand in Notts to take 5·28pc and end overtime ban

By JAMES O'BRIEN

DEMANDS are growing among Nottinghamshire's 30,500 miners for acceptance of the Coal Board's 5·28 per cent. offer and for an end to the overtime ban.

Petitions have been appearing at pits, particularly in South Nottinghamshire.

Shoreham power station has traditionally relied for its supplies on collieries which are now strike-bound and whose pit stocks are besieged by

U.S.O. soundings by colliery managers on the pay offer have been described in the past as "ill-advised moves" by moderate leaders of working miners in Nottinghamshire.

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Maxwell in talks over printing plant

By MAURICE WEAVER Industrial Staff

THE Thomson Organisation confirmed yesterday that it was engaged in talks with Mr Robert Maxwell, proprietor of Mirror Group Newspapers, about the sale of the Thomson House printing plant in Withey Grove, Manchester.

The plant, which prints northern editions of four national newspapers including Mr Maxwell's DAILY AND SUNDAY Mirror, had been expected to close when existing contracts ran out at the end of 1985.

But yesterday Mr George Dunn, managing director of Thomson Withey Grove Ltd, a subsidiary of the International Thomson Organisation, confirmed that negotiations with Mr Maxwell have been in progress since September.

The Mirror Group is currently digesting its findings and talking with the trade unions before resuming negotiations in the next few weeks. No details of a possible purchase price have yet emerged.

In taking over the Withey Grove plant, once the biggest newspaper printing centre in Britain, Mr Maxwell would be aware that its contract print level will not continue at its present level.

How many of the existing 1,780 Withey Grove employees would be required to handle the subject of discussions with the print unions concerned.

A spokesman for Mr Maxwell said last night: "We are interested in purchasing Thomson House and are having exploratory talks."

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SIX GUILTY OF KRUGERRAND £2m VAT PLOT

By IAN HENRY Old Bailey Correspondent

A WEALTHY self-made businessman, Roy Garner, was convicted at the Old Bailey yesterday of a £2 million VAT evasion plot involving Krugerrands worth £300 each.

GARNER, 48, of Cannon Hill, Southgate, had denied conspiracy to evade the tax on £14 million of Krugerrands.

SALESMAN FADED £1m ORDERS

A COMPUTER salesman's bosses were so impressed by the £1 million worth of orders he brought in that they arranged a champagne celebration to toast him. But yesterday Mr Richard O'Rourke, prosecuting, told St Albans Crown Court the orders were faked.

Timothy Wilks, 27, told his bosses at Delta Data Systems that computer salesmen as W. H. Smith and Tottenham Hotspur Football Club wanted to buy their systems. He even presented forged orders to support the sales. By the time the fraud was discovered he had earned himself £8,000 commission.

Now the company, based in Witney Garden City, have been left owing the company £200,000. They had to buy more than £200,000 of computer hardware and also sub-contracted £100,000 worth of work to keep up with the orders.

Told many lies

Mr O'Rourke said Wilks, who earned £12,000 a year, had joined the firm in February and towards the end of the month had won an order for £159,000. That was the beginning of what seems to have been a very successful period of obtaining orders. It was followed by some 20 orders in quick succession within the next four weeks, he said.

Mr William Hunter, defending, said that although the loss to the firm was estimated at £300,000, it would probably eventually be about £100,000. He added that Wilks had a deep-seated untruthfulness and had told his wife many lies, Bulle's bail.

Woman who killed cruel husband freed

A MOTHER of five who shot her cruel and sadistic husband was freed by Mr Justice Russell in Manchester Crown Court yesterday. He said to her: "I think you have suffered enough."

Mrs PAULINE Wyatt said as she left the court she was relieved she had been allowed to spend Christmas with her children whose ages range from 11 years and 10 months.

"In 12 years of marriage, I have never had a happy Christmas but we have all been looking forward to this one," she said.

Mrs Wyatt, 29, was put on probation for three years after being convicted of the manslaughter of her husband Charles at their home in Flora Drive, Salford, Manchester. She was found not guilty of murder.

Strangle threat

She shot him from point-blank range with a shotgun as he slept just a few hours after he threatened to "skin" two of their children, stab two others and strangle the baby.

The husband had made their marriage a "living hell," the court was told. He had thrown knives at her, had thrust a loaded shotgun into her mouth and poured paraffin over her head and threatened to ignite it.

On one occasion he strangled their two parrays and choked their puppy before shooting it with an air rifle, and had shaved her head forcing her to wear a wig. Wyatt had also treated his wife like a dog, making her sit under the table.

COURT RESERVES PILL JUDGMENT

Three Appeal Court judges yesterday reserved judgment on an attempt to overturn a High Court judge's refusal to ban doctors from putting under-age schoolgirls on the contraceptive pill without their parents' consent.

Customs officers became suspicious over the increasing amount of gold coming in from Jersey, and set up a lengthy surveillance operation which led to the arrest.

The others to be sentenced on Monday are MARK GARNER, 20, of Cannon Hill, Southgate; DAVID BULLEN, 57, of Arabia Close, Chingford, Essex; PAUL FENTON, 42, an antique dealer; his wife DORIS FENTON, 42, of Central Hill, Upper Norwood, and KENNETH HOWARD, 45, a company director of Minchenden Crescent, Southgate.

Bullen, appearing as a defence witness for Garner claimed to be the mastermind behind the swindle and said he had £1 million hidden in a place he refused to identify. Judge Lowry immediately revoked Bulle's bail.

HAMMER BLOW

Mr Martin Lewis, a blacksmith, has been given 90 days to soundproof his forge after neighbours in Stanton St Bernard, Wiltshire, complained to the local council about the noise of his hammer.



Hard-up judge stole cheques

DEPUTY Circuit Judge

PETER MORRIS stole from a colleague at his legal practice because he was hard up. Magistrates at Hertford were told yesterday, by Mr ROLAND PELLY, defending.

Morris, 46, who used to sit as a judge at Chelmsford Crown Court, paid a cheque sent to a fellow barrister into a secret building society account, using a false name.

He pleaded guilty to three charges of theft, as well as forgery and obtaining money by deception.

False claims

Morris, described as a specialist in crime, was given a prison sentence of six months, suspended for two years.

The chairman of the magistrates, Mr ROBERT MUNCUR, said to him: "You abused your

position as a member of the collegue at their chambers in Bar."

Other people holding responsible positions must be debarred and shown that such conduct will be punished."

Miss CLAIRE REGGIO, prosecuting, said that when confronted with his crimes, Morris first claimed his son was a drug addict and had stolen the cheques, and then that he had needed the money to pay for an abortion for his own girlfriend.

Both explanations were untrue.

Mr Pelly said Morris had financial difficulties. "The tragedy is that if he had swallowed his pride for a moment, there were perhaps 100 people he had known who could have given him or lent him the temporary necessary funds to tide him over."

The court heard that Morris, of Milton Road, Cambridge, stole three cheques sent to a private to 12.

All are members of the 1st Bn, parachute Regt, based at Picton Barracks, Bulford Camp, on Salisbury Plain. They are all charged with raping the girl at their barracks last Saturday night and were remanded in custody until Monday.

12 PARAS ON RAPE CHARGE

Seven more paratroopers accused of rape appeared before a special court at Salisbury yesterday bringing the total number of men alleged to have been involved in a weekend attack on a 22-year-old WRAC private to 12.

Lapiere was sentenced to detention for a maximum period of four years. He was described by Judge NEIL BYRNE, Q.C., as "a danger and serious risk" to the public.

The judge said: "This is no ordinary case. With one exception you are all guilty of taking part in vicious and cowardly attacks on innocent people."

"One thing that comes out clearest of all is your complete indifference and lack of regard for your victims."

Young robbers sprayed victims with tear gas

A GANG of ruthless young robbers called "The Firm" terrorised shopkeepers and mugged members of the public, sometimes spraying their victims with tear gas.

In four months the gang, aged between 16 and 22, stole £16,000 in cash and property.

Stores, like D. H. Evans, Woolworths, W. H. Smith, Boots and Tesco, were raided, often "mob-handed" by as many as 50 youths.

Small corner shops, usually run by Asians, were picked on, said Mr MICHAEL STUART-MOORE, prosecuting at Wood Green Crown Court.

Most of the gang were black, but at least two, one a leading member, were white.

Mr Stuart-Moore said the gang members bought their tear gas or CS gas canisters, for between £5 and £15, from people attending Arsenal Football Club's Highbury stadium.

"These canisters are sold on the Continent as a weapon of self-defence. They are obviously good when used as weapons of offence," he said.

Admitted robbery

Eight "hard core" members of the gang admitted numerous offences of robbery, burglary, theft and assault. They are:

TONY O'KEEFE, 21, of Chettle Court, Ridge Road, and ALAN WATSON, of Hornsey Park Road, both of Hornsey; and MICHAEL LAPIERRE, 16, of The Crossways.

PETER BAKER, 19, of Park Road, RODNEY GRANNUM, 18, of Maryland Road, ALAN JOHN, 17, of Gladstone Avenue, BASIL ALLEYNE, 17, Croxden Gardens, and TONY SCARBOROUGH, 18, of Lordship Lane, all Wood Green.

O'Keefe was jailed for five years. Baker and Grannum received four years youth custody each; John and Alleyne three years youth custody each. Scarborough was sentenced to two years youth custody and Watson jailed for two years.

Lapiere was sentenced to detention for a maximum period of four years. He was described by Judge NEIL BYRNE, Q.C., as "a danger and serious risk" to the public.

The judge said: "This is no ordinary case. With one exception you are all guilty of taking part in vicious and cowardly attacks on innocent people."

"One thing that comes out clearest of all is your complete indifference and lack of regard for your victims."

COSY CHATS

'DO NOT STOP LOUTS'

NASTY and loutish behaviour by people who drank too much would not be stopped by "cosy chats with probation officers and digging gardens for old ladies," senior Appeal Court Judge Lord Justice Lawton said yesterday.

The judge, who sat with Mr Justice Cantley and Sir John Thompson, was commenting before the court upheld suspended jail sentences totalling 12 months on an unconvicted man, aged 25.

John Walmsley, of Chelwood Close, Brighton, sentenced at Lewes Crown Court on Dec. 12 last year for robbery and burglary, had his appeal dismissed.

The judge said the burglary involved a shop window being broken with an elbow, and the robbery of shop manager being intimidated into handing over ice cream.

It was loutish behaviour of a type too common and which should be discouraged, the appeal judge said.

POLY ORDERED TO NAME STUDENTS

Mr Justice Leonard in the High Court yesterday ordered North London Polytechnic to disclose the names and addresses of students who tried to bar Mr Patrick Harrington, a National Front official, from his philosophy lectures last week.

He also ruled that the Polytechnic authorities must identify student lawbreakers on written request from Mr Harrington's solicitors. Mr Harrington is taking contempt proceedings against activists breaking a High Court injunction outlawing any attempt to stop him attending lectures.

MATTER OF TASTE

A Michigan public library has decided to ban readers with "poor personal hygiene," in a ruling civil rights groups say is aimed at barring vagrants.

RUSSIA SHELVES KEY POINTS FOR WEAPON TALKS

By NIGEL WADE in Moscow

THE Russians appear to have temporarily shelved two key preconditions to enable a proposed January meeting between the nations' foreign ministers.

But diplomats in Moscow said last night there was nothing to stop Russia re-imposing hard-line conditions at a later stage.

The preconditions are that new American missiles be removed from Europe before talks limiting medium-range weapons continue and that Washington accepts an anti-satellite weapons test moratorium before talks on demilitarisation of space.

An agreed statement made in Moscow and Washington yesterday spoke of "new talks with the aim of achieving mutually acceptable accords on the entire complex of questions concerning nuclear and space weapons."

Mr Gromyko and Mr Shultz, the ministers involved, would meet in Geneva on Jan. 7-8 to "work out a joint understanding of the subject and aims of such talks."

Cruise and Pershing

There was no mention of Cruise and Pershing missiles having to be withdrawn from Western Europe or of any halt to testing space weapons. Diplomats said it was not immediately clear whether the Americans had made any equivalent concessions to get talks going.

Meanwhile Mr Kinnoch, the Labour leader, who saw Mr Georgi Arbatov, the Kremlin's top adviser on American affairs, in Moscow yesterday, said he would be seeking further clarification when he meets Presidents Chernenko and Mr Gromyko on Monday.

Mr Kinnoch said the question of precisely what, if any, conditions the Russians might still involve in arms control bargaining would have to be closely studied.

Mr Vladimir Lomeiko, spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry, formally read out the Soviet-American announcement to Western and Russian newsmen summoned to the Ministry last night.

He stressed that the proposed talks were now not a resumption of the earlier Geneva arms talks broken off in Moscow after cruise and Pershing deployment began in Western Europe a year ago.

If it were suggested that the old talks should continue, the spokesman said, it would be necessary for the American missiles to be withdrawn as a precondition. But in January anything could be discussed.

It would be up to Mr Shultz

and Mr Gromyko to work out what they would talk about.

Mr Kinnoch said the announcement of a Shultz-Gromyko meeting was seen by him and Mr Arbatov as the beginning of an "encouraging" process.

Mr Arbatov, asked if he now saw genuine movement toward arms control, replied in English: "I think it is not time to make such decisive and categorical statements. Disarmament talks depend on given policies, not on some form of technical things."

"I hope that something will happen, that movement will start, but as far as it will go..." continued with a shrug.

Mr Arbatov directs the Institute for the United States and Canada, and often visits America.

Asked why the Russians had decided to talk to the Reagan administration now, he said: "We were ready to do it all the time." Mr Chernenko had proposed "a whole menu of issues which could be solved. It was the Americans who had not shown readiness."

"If we survive"

Mr Arbatov sounded cautiously hopeful when asked if he saw a possible return to detente. "If there is the political will it is possible. In the long term it is even inevitable, if we survive these difficult times."

The Labour party is committed to abandon unilaterally Britain's nuclear deterrent force. Mr Kinnoch said he stressed to Mr Arbatov that this was "not non-defence policy but a non-nuclear defence policy," and that Britain under Labour would maintain a strong credible commitment to NATO.

He emphasised that "sustain that commitment in its most effective and modern form."

The Labour leader is due to meet President Chernenko and Mr Gromyko on Monday. He said he would emphasise to them the need for East-West dialogue and also Labour's commitment to the Western alliance.

Pravda yesterday carried a brief report of Mr Kinnoch's arrival opposite reports of the Anglo-Irish summit, a London demo against cruise missiles and a cartoon showing police beating striking miners.

Poles take quiet line

By MICHAEL FARR in Bonn

IN an apparent attempt to limit damage, the officially-controlled Polish Press reacted soberly yesterday to the abrupt cancellation by Herr Genscher, West German Foreign Minister, of his ice-breaking trip to Warsaw.

Newspapers restricted themselves to reports on the Polish Foreign Ministry's statement on the cancellation and a commentary by the official news agency, P.A.P.

The Warsaw ministry had expressed disappointment at "the sudden and hardly convincing decision" to postpone the visit but added the hope that "the way towards an improvement in relations between Poland and West Germany remained open."

P.A.P. said the postponement

had slowed Warsaw's post-martial law rapprochement with the West but would not stop it.

Whether anybody wants it or not, Poland is returning to the group of European states which actively participate in the international dialogue, including that with West Germany," said the agency.

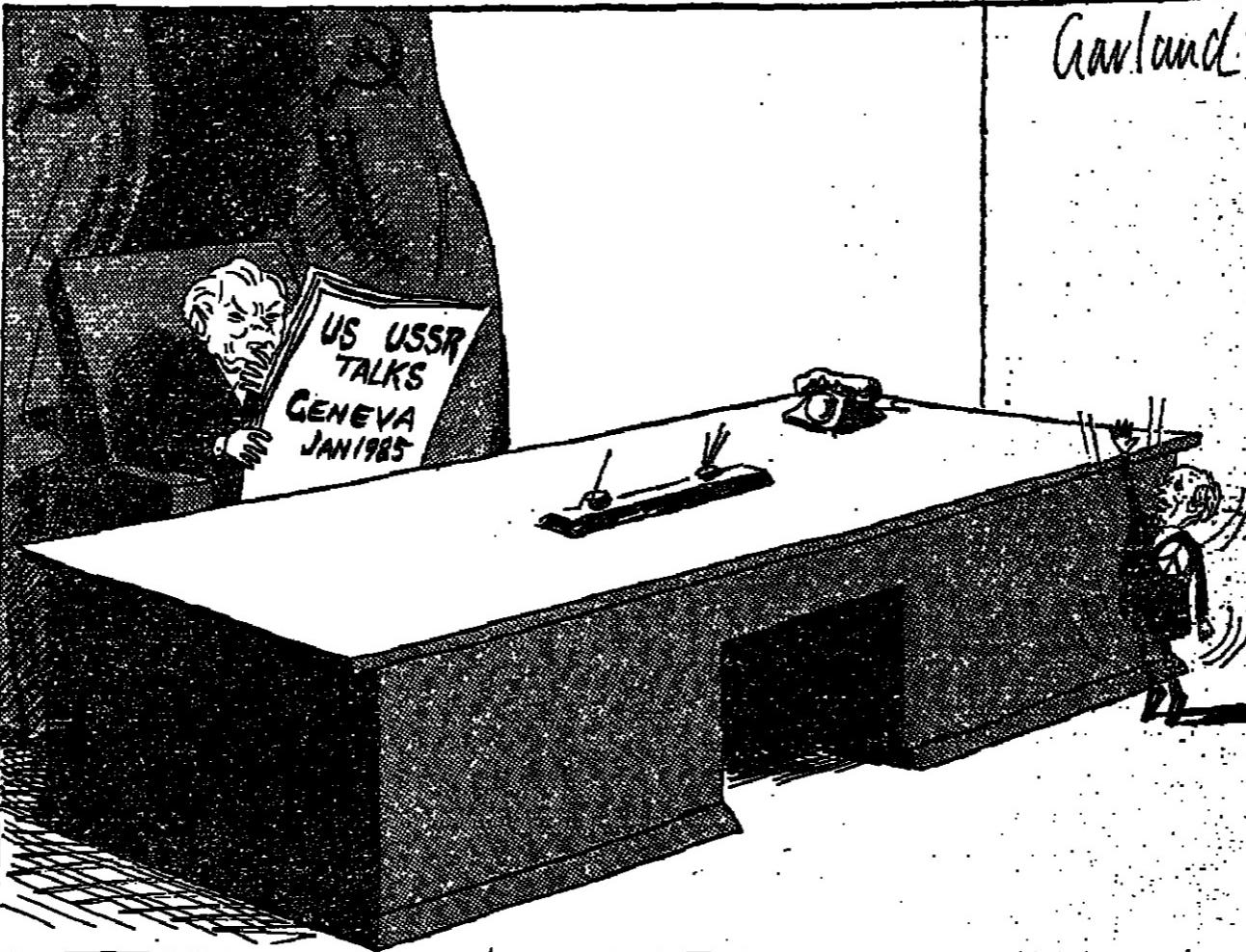
Tourists jump ship

Meanwhile, 17 more Polish tourists were reported yesterday by West German frontier police to have jumped ship from the ferry Rosalind after it docked in the Baltic port of Lübeck-Travemünde on the way back from Copenhagen.

This brings to 301 the number of Poles who have jumped the Rosalind and cruise liner Stefan Batory during stopovers in West Germany in the past week.

Mr O'Keeffe, who returns to Dublin today, said his immediate concern was the critically low level of emergency food stocks at the Red Sea port of Assab which provide the grain for the airlift to famine victims in the North.

Mr O'Keeffe said he would be making a report and analysis of the situation to the EEC foreign ministers and would be asking for a greatly increased amount of food aid to be sent from EEC grain surpluses.



OPTIMISM AT NATO TALKS

By JOAN CLEMENTS
in The Hague

THERE was some optimism last night in The Hague, where Nato Defence Ministers met for the first time within the framework of the Independent European Programme Group.

It was felt there would be agreement on a political directive and co-operation programme at the close of the talks today.

The 12 Nato Defence Ministers, including Mr Heseltine, are meeting to discuss ways to achieve effective co-operation in arms production.

The Ministers will also discuss specific joint-production projects, including military transport planes and a new heavy-duty tank. A new helicopter is likely to be included, or the agenda for future consideration.

Increasing willingness

But sources say that the Ministers will have a long way if a firm directive in the form of a strong political statement is announced today.

The Independent European Programme Group, established in 1978, consists of all European member states of Nato (including France) with the exception of Iceland. The chairmanship, which rotates every other year, is at present held by the Netherlands.

A Nato official said yesterday that there was an increasing willingness to co-operate as "all countries begin to realise the high cost of producing new weapons."

In a paper submitted to a meeting of the Euro group's Defence Ministers, of which he is chairman, Mr Heseltine said a particular effort should be made to bring together existing timetables

HITLER DIARIES'
MAN RE-ARRESTED

By Our Bonn Correspondent

Konrad Kujau, 46, the self-confessed forger of the bogus "Hitler Diaries," was arrested in Hamburg yesterday after a ruling last week that he should be released from custody was overturned.

Kujau was first arrested in May 1983 and charged with fraud, together with Gerd Heidemann, 64, the former *Spiegel* reporter who acquired the diaries for the magazine for £25,000.

Mr O'Keeffe said he would be launching a report and analysis of the situation to the EEC foreign ministers and would be asking for a greatly increased amount of food aid to be sent from EEC grain surpluses.

Irish seek more EEC grain for Ethiopia

By R. BARRY O'BRIEN in Addis Ababa

A BIG increase in emergency food aid from Europe's grain stocks for Ethiopia's six million famine victims, was urged in Addis Ababa yesterday by Mr Jim O'Keeffe, the Irish Republic's Foreign Affairs Minister.

The minister, who has been visiting some famine areas and meeting aid workers and officials, said he would be making this plea as Ireland's representative at the EEC Council of Foreign Ministers meeting in Brussels next Monday.

Mr O'Keeffe said Ethiopia found them guilty of an "act of terrorism" as defined under the Law and Order Maintenance Act, which carries the death penalty."

Gilbert Ngewnya, 42, and Austin Mpofu, 25, refused to enter a plea, and they shouted support for the minority Zapatista African Peoples Union party of Mr Joshua Nkomo.

Ngewnya said he commanded the group that seized the two Britons, two Americans and two Australians near Blantyre. He claimed they were still alive and had been handed over to "some Soviet people, in Zambia."

They claim the Government failed to keep its word to Alsace by choosing Grenoble as the site of an important new European technical project.

Among the crowd were about 1,500 mayors and town councillors of the region, wearing their tricolour belts.

President Mitterrand, on the first day of his two-day official visit to the region, had a cool reception in most towns. Many opposition local governments boycotted the visit.

The trouble was caused by the Government's cancellation last month of an agreement whereby the European Synchrotron, a kind of giant atomic microscope, would be built in Strasbourg.

Plans to site the Synchrotron in Strasbourg go back to 1981 and were finalised only last May. But for alleged reasons of regional industrial balance, Strasbourg was suddenly dropped in favour of Grenoble.

Yesterday in an unusually tough speech, the President, visibly annoyed by the unfriendly reception in parts of Alsace, said he agreed with the choice of Grenoble.

It was right to concentrate nuclear and other developments in physics there while "biological and institutional elements" were grouped in Strasbourg, seat of the European Parliament

BRAZIL IN SPACE

Brazil yesterday fired a "local" rocket described as the culmination of 20 years' research. Weighing more than seven tons the 36-foot Sonda 4 was said to be the first step in a programme aimed at launching a satellite by 1989.

ZIMBABWE ABDUCTORS TO DIE

By Our Harare Correspondent

TWO dissidents who took part in 1982 in the abduction of six tourists were sentenced to death yesterday in Zimbabwe's High Court.

Mr Justice Wilson Sanderson found them guilty of an "act of terrorism" as defined under the Law and Order Maintenance Act, which carries the death penalty."

Gilbert Ngewnya, 42, and Austin Mpofu, 25, refused to enter a plea, and they shouted support for the minority Zapatista African Peoples Union party of Mr Joshua Nkomo.

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CRASH KILLS 25

Twenty-five people were killed and 47 injured when an overcrowded commuter train derailed yesterday while changing tracks five miles from Bombay.—A.P.

POLITICIAN KILLED

The beheaded and mutilated body of Mahbub Ali, 43, a senior vice-chairman of the Bangladesh People's League, was found in a container in the central radio station of Kamalapur in Dacca, police said yesterday. Newspapers said he had enemies among people to whom he was reported to have advanced money.—A.P.

£20m airline order may go to US after EEC bans British

By ALAN OSBORN in Brussels

BRITAIN'S fight to retain a £20 million contract to provide aircraft for a Caribbean airline appeared to have failed yesterday after the EEC confirmed that the airline must buy French.

GIANT DAM HOLDS KEY TO AMAZON

By RICHARD HOUSE
in São Paulo

BRAZIL'S President Figueiredo yesterday inaugurated a giant hydro-powered dam in the Southern Amazon, whose electric power will make possible industrial development in the world's last great forest region.

The Tucuruí Dam, on the river Tocantins, a Southern Amazon tributary, was finally completed three years behind schedule. By 1989 it will be generating 8,000 megawatts.

As the vast reservoir covered the forest area in recent weeks, teams of rescuers with nets, radios and monitors rescued thousands of animals and even venomous snakes from drownings. Some 19,000 people were moved from the area.

But all this failed to satisfy ecologists and preservation groups. The Madrid-based United Nations Environment Programme has accepted in principle a suit against Brazil for allowing the irresponsible use of illegal chemical defoliants.

One of the reasons for the delay in completing the £1 billion-French-financed dam was the incompetence which dogged attempts to clear valuable timber from the reservoir. Now rotting, dead trees fear the trees may pollute the water.

The state government of Para, where the dam is situated, tried to delay filling the reservoir so the timber could be removed, but President Figueiredo was eager to inaugurate the dam before he leaves office next March.

The power from the dam is essential to ambitious plans to open up the Amazon to mining, industrial and agri-business ventures, which form a part of Brazil's strategy for paying off its \$100 billion foreign debt.

CIA SEEKS AID TO GAIN T.V. FAIRNESS'

By Our Peking Correspondent

Peking has promised the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club that horse racing can continue in the colony after the 1987 take-over, even though gambling is illegal in China, it was reported in the South China Morning Post.

About 470 races are held at the Sha Tin racecourse during its 65 meetings each year, with prize money among the highest in the world. The club estimates that gamblers invest about £3 million on each race.

Gen. Sir John Archer, the club's chief executive, said he had received an assurance about the future from Mr Xu Jianjun, who as director of the New China News Agency in Hong Kong is de facto Chinese Consul-General in the colony.

RAPIST EXECUTED

After helping to jail criminals in China's Kiangsu province, a chief prosecutor's clerk visited their wives and demanded them, the New China News Agency said yesterday. Wang Baoling, 30, was executed on Tuesday for assaulting six women.

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HUSSEIN WALKS TIGHTROPE AS PLO MEDIATOR

By JOHN BULLOCH in Amman

KING HUSSEIN of Jordan yesterday offered the total support of his kingdom to the men his Army once tried to destroy.

The King, speaking in a hall so well guarded that many correspondents reporting the meeting of the Palestine National Council were denied admission, called for an international conference on the Middle

CHAD FIASCO

HUMILIATES FRANCE

By MICHAEL FIELD
in Paris

FRANCE, still without confirmation that the Libyans are keeping their word and withdrawing from Chad, seems caught between the alternatives of humiliation or war.

Chad Government forces are continuing their build-up in the North, including elements of President Habre's crack Presidential Guard.

The Cabinet met in N'Djamena yesterday morning to review the situation after President Habre's long talks with M. Charles Hernu and Gen. J. Acary, respectively French Defence Minister and Chief of Staff.

Informal sources in Paris said the suspense was likely to continue at least until the weekend and that President Mitterrand, paying an official visit to Syria next week, might even defer his decision on the next move in his duel with Col Gaddafi until his return next Wednesday.

Defence denial

The Quai d'Orsay has dismissed as "inexact" a statement on Wednesday by the Greek official spokesman in Athens that a new Franco-Libyan Commission had been set up to monitor troop withdrawal in Chad.

Simultaneously the Defence Ministry in Paris put out a similar statement "formally denying" the presence of French military observers on the ground in Chad.

Mr Dimitrios Maroudas, the Greek spokesman, had said the Franco-Libyan Commission had been agreed by President Mitterrand and Col Gaddafi at their Crete "summit" a week ago.

Mr Jean Lecanuet, President of the Giscardian Opposition Union for French Democracy, who is also chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, called the situation "a diplomatic farce" for France.

"Pulling out"

The Chad affair has revived a prediction, first disclosed a fortnight ago by a French weekly magazine, that M. Claude Cheysson, Foreign Minister, would shortly be leaving his post and would be replaced by M. Roland Dumas, 62, currently Minister for European Affairs and Government spokesman.

M. Dumas is a close friend and long-time political associate of President Mitterrand, who is believed to have arranged for M. Cheysson to return to Brussels as an EEC Commissioner.

Paris might just have got away with the claim that Libyan troops had basically withdrawn, had it not been for American satellite reconnaissance.

This has irritated the French who are convinced that while Washington urges its allies to boycott Libya, it is itself conducting lucrative trade with the pariah country.

In Athens yesterday, Libya's Foreign Minister, Treiki, said Libyan forces were now pulling out of Chad following a delay.

Objective observer

Ram ANAST in Athens writes: Mr Carlos Papoulias, Greek Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs, left for Libya yesterday to act as "objective observer" for the recent agreement between France and Libya to withdraw any remaining military forces from Chad.

The Royal Bank of Scotland

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But why, he reasons, should they receive more than their due share?

Handcrafted by the Sixteen Men of Tain.

Sri Lanka under curfew to prevent ethnic violence

By FILMI WIMALADASA in Colombo

A PRE-EMPTIVE island-wide curfew was imposed in Sri Lanka from 6 a.m. yesterday to 6 a.m. today to prevent any repetition of ethnic violence of the kind that occurred in July, 1983.

The funerals of most of the 29 people killed in a police-station explosion at Chavakacheri were due to be held yesterday.

Last year ethnic violence broke out when the bodies of 14 soldiers killed in a terrorist ambush by Tamil separatists were brought to Colombo.

The present curfew follows sporadic isolated incidents late on Wednesday. Two Tamil shops in Thimbirigasyawa, four miles south of Colombo, were burned, but there was no loss of life, the Government says.

Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, Minister of National Security, said that the Government decided to impose the curfew as a precautionary measure after finding that anti-Tamil elements were trying to provoke people by spreading rumours.

He asked the public not to believe rumours, and said stern action would be taken against rumour mongers.

Last year the Government was accused of not making a firm effort to nip the situation

in the bud, and soldiers and police were said to have turned a blind eye when mobs went on the rampage, killing Tamils and setting fire to cars, homes and business places.

Rumour was ripe then, and the Government decided to take firm action about 300 Tamils who had lost their lives and hundreds of Tamil establishments had been destroyed.

This time the Government decided to take no chances, and at the first sign of an anti-Tamil backlash declared a 24-hour curfew.

The Government also denied as baseless rumours of further violence at Palaly and Elephant Pass Army camps in the Jaffna peninsula.

"We have always been opposed to violence. It is counter-productive to our cause."

While the TUJF is trying to negotiate on the issue of autonomy for the predominantly Tamil north of the island in the form of a regional council, young Tamils tend to see this as useless because the Government will not give way.

Many householders think that when they buy sliding patio doors they are going to get both leaves sliding—like the London Underground—it was claimed.

An investigation undertaken by the leading door and window manufacturers Critall Warmlife Ltd, found that most purchasers were surprised that only half the glass area could be opened.

"The only thing that is impossible," said Mike Groves, Critall Warmlife Director of Installations, "is if the sliding leaves disappeared into the brickwork." But the Company claims to have the answer to this problem with their three ranges of hinged patio doors that are making a big impact on the market.

"We are frequently asked to replace old doors with this new type to give all the thermal and acoustic advantages, together with 100 p.c. access," said Mr Groves.

This is particularly relevant where the existing programme is to be maintained, and if excess is needed four wheelchairs or the like."

See Coupon on page 14.

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BASQUES CLASH WITH POLICE IN MURDER PROTEST STRIKE

By TIM BROWN in Madrid

BASQUE rioters hurling rocks and petrol bombs fought with police yesterday during a one-day general strike coinciding with the funeral of the murdered separatist leader Dr Santi Brouard.

Dozens of arrests were reported in the three Basque provinces, all but paralysed by the strike which closed factories, stores and schools and halted public transport.

Practically all Basque political parties and unions supported the strike, called after Tuesday's murder of Dr Brouard, 64, a pediatrician and leader of the separatist party Herri Batasuna.

Yesterday in Madrid doctors were treating complications after emergency surgery on Gen. Luis Roson, critically wounded by separatist ETA gunmen in a revenge shooting.

The recently retired General, 66, was hit four times when his car was ambushed in rush-hour traffic on a main Madrid street on Wednesday.

Bar bombed

Riot police reinforced by mobile units sent into the Basque country from elsewhere in Spain clashed with Left-wing separatist students and workers yesterday in incidents that included the burning of a Spanish flag, destruction of buses, scores of street barricades and at least

one attack on a Socialist party headquarters.

Police, who made dozens of arrests, fired rubber bullets and smoke grenades during confrontations in and around the major cities of Bilbao, San Sebastian and Vitoria, capital of the Basque country.

Herri Batasuna is considered the political arm of the guerrilla group ETA (Basque Homeland and Liberty), which has been responsible for most of the more than 400 deaths in separatist violence since 1968.

Socialist Government officials said the assassination of Dr Brouard appeared to be an attempt to block peace moves in the region.

Herri Batasuna said in a statement yesterday: "The ideal for which Santi has given everything, including his life, continues alive in the people and they will not surrender."

Another mob attacked the Socialist party headquarters in the Bilbao suburb of Brandio, smashing windows and wrecking blinds before being repelled. Barricades were built across most main roads in the region.

A spokesman for Herri Batasuna said yesterday that a message of solidarity had been received from Sinn Fein, the IRA political organisation, but could not say whether it had sent any representatives to the funeral.

No creditable claim had been made by late yesterday for the killing of Dr Bronard, a child specialist gunned down in his surgery in Bilbao.

But the Right-wing mercenary terror organisation G.A.I., the anti-terrorist Liberation Group, remains the chief suspect after a year of murdering ETA activists across the frontier inside France.

At least 530 bodies had been recovered yesterday, and the Mexican Red Cross said the death toll would undoubtedly reach 600. Many corpses had still to be recovered.

Some 300 bodies have been identified, but others were burned beyond recognition by the intense heat of gallons of liquid gas on fire.

The Government's oil company, Petróleos Mexicanos, denied responsibility for the disaster. It stated that the fire started in a gas-delivery lorry outside the plant and spread to the industrial complex.

More importantly, it threatened the unity of the Labour party itself. Although its supporters cross all party lines, it has a strong attraction for Labour Left-wingers.

In Brisbane yesterday Mr Hawke, the Prime Minister, said he was prepared to act as a go-between between America and Russia on nuclear arms talks. He was ready to go on from his planned visit to Washington early next year to Moscow.

"Panic stricken"

Australia voted on Wednesday in the General Assembly in favour of a motion calling on the superpowers to impose an immediate freeze on nuclear weapons. This was the first time it had voted against the United States on the issue.

Mr Michael McKellar, Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs, described the vote as "panic stricken". He said it could encourage Russia to resist arms reduction proposals to something less than a nuclear freeze.

He added: "Mr Hawke, the Foreign Minister, of having deliberately chosen an occasion that Australia would play a mediating role in superpower disarmament talks. That impression had been corrected by the United States.

Speaking at the National Press Club in Canberra, Mr Peacock, the leader of the Opposition, predicted that the Nuclear Disarmament party would cause a split in the Labour group similar to that of 1955 which helped keep Labour out of office for 17 years.

FEARS PERSIST ABOUT MARCOS

By Our Staff Correspondent in Manila

In an attempt to allay public concern that President Marcos of the Philippines, 67, was seriously ill, officials showed film clips yesterday of him having a medical check-up.

But rumours persisted that Government claims that President Marcos was suffering from influenza amounted to deception; and Cardinal Jaime Sin, leader of the Roman Catholic Church in the Philippines, told a meeting of advertising executives that he, for one, remained unconvinced by official denials of rumours.

Hawke in fight to win anti-nuclear party voters

By DENIS WARNER in Melbourne

THE Australian election has been dominated in the past two days by the Hawke government's determined efforts to woo back voters from the single-issue Nuclear Disarmament party.

The party, led by a rock singer, has become more than a nuisance in Senate contests in at least two States.

It wants to ban the mining and export of uranium and all nuclear ship visits, to remove American installations from Australia and to end the United States alliance.

Its support in New South Wales seems likely to win it a Senate seat and it also has prospects in Victoria.

More importantly, it threatens the unity of the Labour party itself. Although its supporters cross all party lines it has a strong attraction for Labour Left-wingers.

In Brisbane yesterday Mr Hawke, the Prime Minister, said he was prepared to act as a go-between between America and Russia on nuclear arms talks.

He was ready to go on from his planned visit to Washington early next year to Moscow.

"Panic stricken"

Australia voted on Wednesday in the General Assembly in favour of a motion calling on the superpowers to impose an immediate freeze on nuclear weapons. This was the first time it had voted against the United States on the issue.

Mr Michael McKellar, Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs, described the vote as "panic stricken". He said it could encourage Russia to resist arms reduction proposals to something less than a nuclear freeze.

He added: "Mr Hawke, the Foreign Minister, of having deliberately chosen an occasion that Australia would play a mediating role in superpower disarmament talks. That impression had been corrected by the United States.

Speaking at the National Press Club in Canberra, Mr Peacock, the leader of the Opposition, predicted that the Nuclear Disarmament party would cause a split in the Labour group similar to that of 1955 which helped keep Labour out of office for 17 years.

MUDFOAM IN CONTEST

Meanwhile Sir Robert Mudford, the former Prime Minister, has decided to defy critics and contest the National party's leadership race next month.

Sir Robert, whose party was swept from office in Labour's July landslide, conceded yesterday that he did not yet have enough votes to retain his job as Opposition leader.

He will join four other former Cabinet ministers in vying for the top post when the party's caucus meets on Dec. 21.

The other contenders are Mr Jim McLay, former Deputy Prime Minister and now Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Mr Bill Birch, former Minister of Energy, Mr George Gair, former Minister of Transport, and Mr Jim Bolger, former Minister of Labour.

Since the National government's trouncing there have been widespread calls from within the party for Sir Robert to step down. And he told colleagues in July that he was "unlikely to be a candidate."

Yesterday he claimed that none of the other leadership candidates had proved himself capable of putting Labour out of office.

DODGERS ROUND-UP

Indian Railways caught 105,927 travellers riding trains without valid tickets and 4,442 of them were jailed in a two-week drive against fare dodgers last month, the Indian Government announced yesterday.—Reuter.

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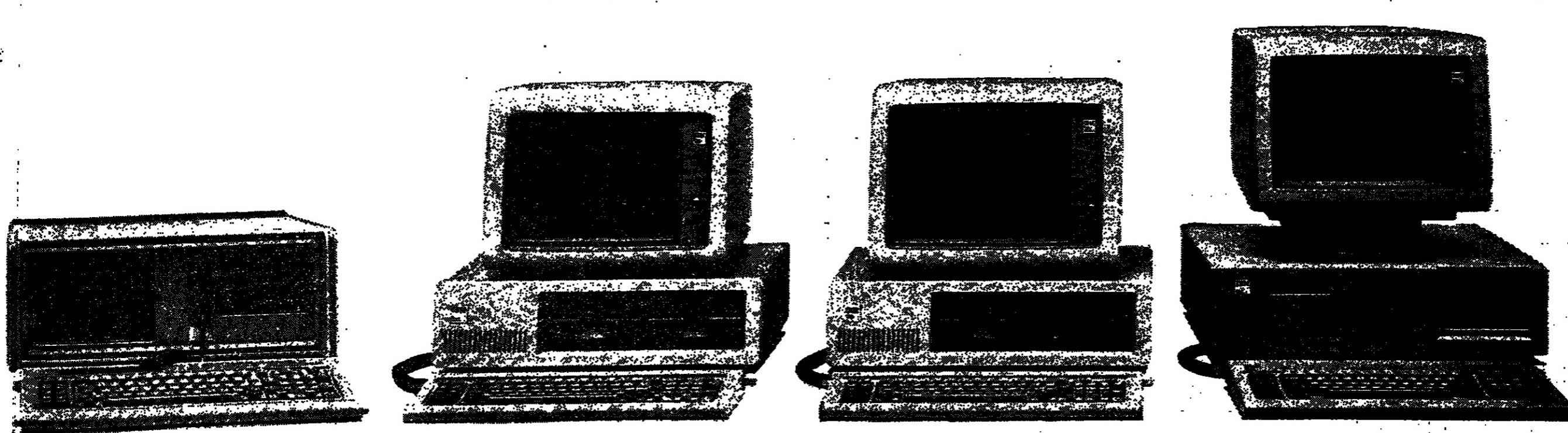
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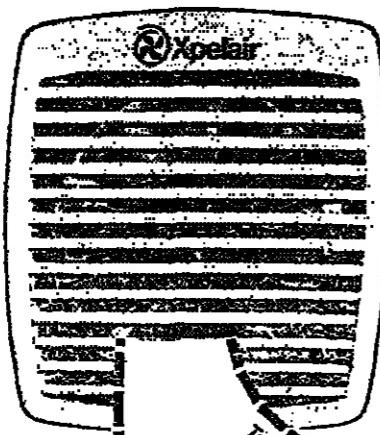
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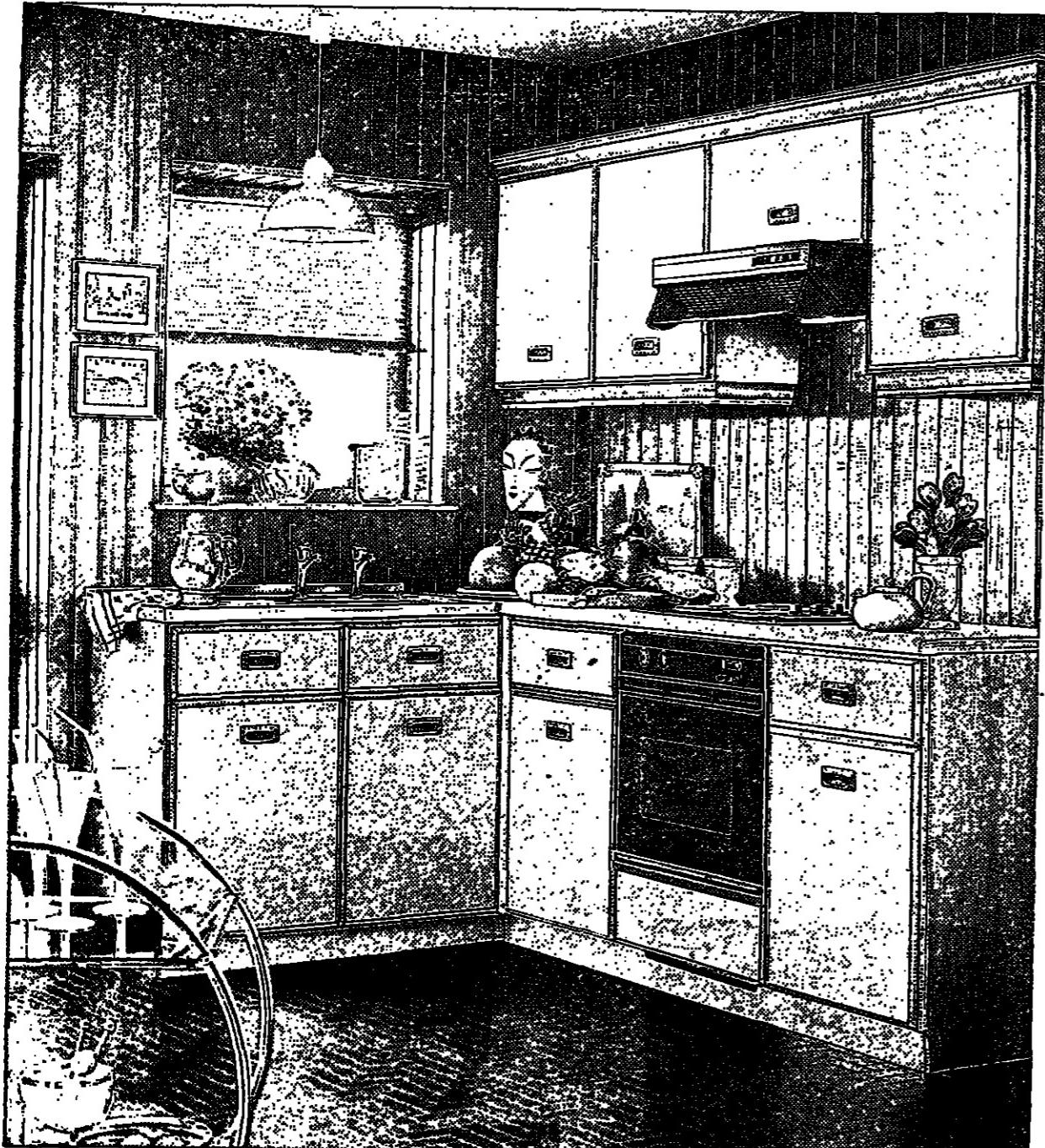
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THATCHER BAN ON UNIONS AT GCHQ LEGAL BECAUSE OF STATE SECURITY

By TERENCE SHAW Legal Correspondent

THE Prime Minister's ban on trade unions at the top secret Government Communications Headquarters was lawful and could not be reviewed in the courts because national security was involved, the House of Lords ruled yesterday.

But in unanimously dismissing an appeal by the civil service unions, the law lords made it clear that if no question of national security arose, they would have upheld the legal challenge on grounds that Mrs Thatcher had failed to consult unions or staff before making her decision.

In judgments of great constitutional importance Lords DIPLOCK, SCARMAN and ROSKILL took the view that the courts have power to review the exercise of all prerogative as well as statutory powers by Government and Ministers, except in certain sensitive areas not susceptible to review in the courts.

Lord Roskill suggested that these exceptions included national security, the making of treaties, the defence of the realm, the grant of honours, the dissolution of Parliament and the appointment of Ministers.

Lord FRASER of TULLYBENTON and Lord BRIGHTON said they would reserve for future decisions whether the courts' power to review exercise of the prerogative should be limited by delegated decision taking by Order in Council, or extended in appropriate cases to direct exercise of prerogative power.

While the full implications of their judgment will need careful study by lawyers, it appears that, outside the field of national security, changes in the terms and conditions of employment of civil servants could now be subject to review in the courts.

In their unanimous ruling yesterday, the law lords dismissed an appeal by the Council of Civil Service Unions and six employees at GCHQ Cheltenham, against a decision of the Court of Appeal last August that the ban on trade unions at Cheltenham, and other outstations was lawful.

Last July in the High Court, Mr Justice Glynne-Jones had ruled that the instructions last December from Mrs Thatcher, as Minister for the Civil Service, imposing the ban were invalid and void because here decision had been taken without any consultations with the unions.

European court
Now the unions have exhausted their legal remedies in Britain, they plan to lodge an application with the European Commission of Human Rights in Strasbourg claiming that the removal of trade union rights is a violation of the European Convention on Human Rights.

This projects the right to "freedom of association" but allows restrictions that are deemed "necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security" and "lawful restrictions" on these

rights by "members of the administration of the State."

Any application to Strasbourg would first have to be declared admissible by the Commission as raising a prima facie issue under the Convention. Its merits would then be examined in detail by the Commission leading to a possible friendly settlement or a report by the Commission giving its view on whether it considered there had been a breach of the Convention.

The case could then be referred for a ruling by the European Court of Human Rights, with the whole process taking several years to complete.

Legitimate expectation

In the Law Lords' ruling, Lord FRASER of TULLYBENTON said that if no question of national security arose in the case, he would have held that the decision-making process was unfair.

The unions would have had a "legitimate expectation" that the Prime Minister would consult them before issuing her instruction of last December.

But Mrs Thatcher's case was that she deliberately made the decision without prior consultation "because prior consultation would involve a real risk that it would occasion the very kind of disruption at GCHQ which was a threat to national security and which it was intended to avoid."

Lord Fraser said the decision on whether the requirements of national security outweighed the duty of fairness in any particular case was for the Government and not the courts.

"The Government alone has access to the necessary information in any event and the judicial process is unsuitable for reaching decisions on national security."

Reasonable fear

Lord SCARMAN said he was also satisfied that the Prime Minister had made out a case on grounds of national security. Her fear of disruption if there was prior consultation was one which a "reasonable Minister

in the circumstances in which she found herself could reasonably entertain."

But for this he would have allowed the appeal on the procedural ground that Mrs Thatcher had acted unlawfully in failing to consult unions or staff before making her decision.

Agreeing, Lord DIPLOCK claimed there was "ample evidence" of a risk of disruption and interference with national security if Mrs Thatcher had consulted the unions before taking her decision.

This was a case where the "procedural propriety" in public law of prior consultation before a benefit was withdrawn must give way to national security.

Prerogative powers

Lord ROSKILL said he could see no reason why a citizen should be deprived of having an act of the executive reviewed in the courts because it was the exercise of a prerogative and not a statutory power.

But many prerogative powers could not properly be made the subject of judicial review such as those relating to the making of treaties, the defence of the realm, the prerogative of mercy, the grant of honours, the dissolution of Parliament and the appointment of Ministers.

If no question of national security arose, the history of the relationship between management and staff showed that there was a "legitimate expectation" of consultation before important alterations in the conditions of civil servants were made.

Elaborate code

No doubt in strict theory, civil servants were dismissible at will said Lord Roskill. But in reality the management-staff relationship was governed by an elaborate code.

He had little doubt that if management sought to alter, without prior consultation, the terms and conditions of employment of civil servants in a field seemingly unconnected with national security, such action would be amenable to judicial review.

Lord BRIGHTMAN said he would also dismiss the appeal "for one reason only." That was the ground of national security.

PLEA TO KEEP CHURCH IS REJECTED

An appeal against a Church Commissioners' scheme which will make the church of St Andrew the Great, Cambridge, redundant, has been dismissed by the Privy Council in London. A suitable alternative use is being sought for the church, which houses a memorial to the explorer Capt. Cook.

Dismissing the appeal by the parochial church council, Lord Bridge of Harwich said the centre of the city of Cambridge was rich in Anglican parish churches. There were nine within one square mile.

"In today's conditions, when the Church of England's limited resources of clerical manpower must be best deployed to meet pastoral needs, such riches have become an embarrassment," he said.

ORGAN WORK BEGINS

Restoration work costing £280,000 has begun on the organ in Chichester Cathedral which was originally built in 1678 and has been out of use for the past 11 years. The organ's pipes, made by Reinhardt Harris, are known to be the oldest in any cathedral in England.

U.S. AIRMEN BARRED

Mr Brian Righton, publican at the Starting Gate in Newbury, Berkshire, has banned American airmen who come from the Greenham Common cruise missiles base, because of a series of disturbances at the pub.

MILL CONVERSION

An 18th century water mill at Bourne, Lincolnshire, which was last used for grinding corn 60 years ago is to be converted by the town's civic society at a cost of £20,000 for use as a heritage and exhibition centre.

Jail visitor

boards
criticised

By T. A. SANDROCK
Crime Correspondent

WATCHDOG boards of prison visitors are falling below their potential, mainly through lack of training and too much reliance on the views of senior staff, claims a Home Office report published yesterday.

Most board members get caught up in so-called "Cook's tours" where, like tourists, they "do" all the right sites, says the report, commissioned by the Home Office Research and Planning Unit.

Boards which escape the "tour traps" are those which make a point of consulting as many people as possible including prisoners and junior officers.

All too often visitors to be called to the prison governor's attention were "problems defined by senior staff" the report claims.

It says boards do not contain a cross-section of the community. More than half the 1,500 members were over 50 years old and less than one in 10 was a "manual worker". New recruits were usually nominated by existing members.

Prisoners do not regard boards as "credible watchdogs" because members appear to identify with governors and not make themselves sufficiently accessible to prisoners, it says.

The report, by Mr Michael Maguire and Mr Jon Vagg, Research Fellows at Oxford University's Centre for Criminological Research, recommends more training, a wider sphere of recruitment and a clearer public explanation of the work of the boards.

More diversity

Mr Brittan, Home Secretary, welcoming the report, said that many of the recommendations were being implemented. Efforts to improve the balance of board membership had resulted in vacancies being advertised and there was an increasing diversity of occupational backgrounds among members.

The boards, appointed by the Home Secretary, are voluntary bodies with responsibility to see that prisoners are treated fairly, to hear their complaints and conduct certain disciplinary hearings.

Watchdog Role of Boards of Visitors
Home Office, E4.

GANG JAILED FOR SMUGGLING CANNABIS

A drugs gang who smuggled cannabis into Britain in tins described as Kenyan jam aid marmalade were jailed yesterday. Kim Taylor, 27, of Llwyncoed, Llanboidy, West Wales, was jailed for six and a half years, and his wife, Margaret, 26, to 15 months.

Leslie Allard, 34, of Valognes Avenue, Walthamstow, was jailed for five and a half years. Adrian Jones, 24, who lived with the Taylors, for three years; Richard Potter, 22, of Tyser, Hebron, near Llanboidy, for two and a half years, and Alastair McDonald, 32, of Watergates, Cirencester, Wilts, for three years.

They all admitted at Swansea Crown Court charges of importing controlled drugs. Henry Thomas, 26, of St Clears, West Wales, who financed part of the operation, admitted aiding and abetting the smuggling and was jailed for three years.

PAINTING STOLEN

Art dealers were alerted yesterday after a painting by James Sant, the Victorian artist, was stolen from a country house near Grantham, Lincolnshire. The circular oil painting on board, entitled "The Shadow", which depicts a child lying in bed asleep, is valued at £2,000.

FIRST FOR GIRLS

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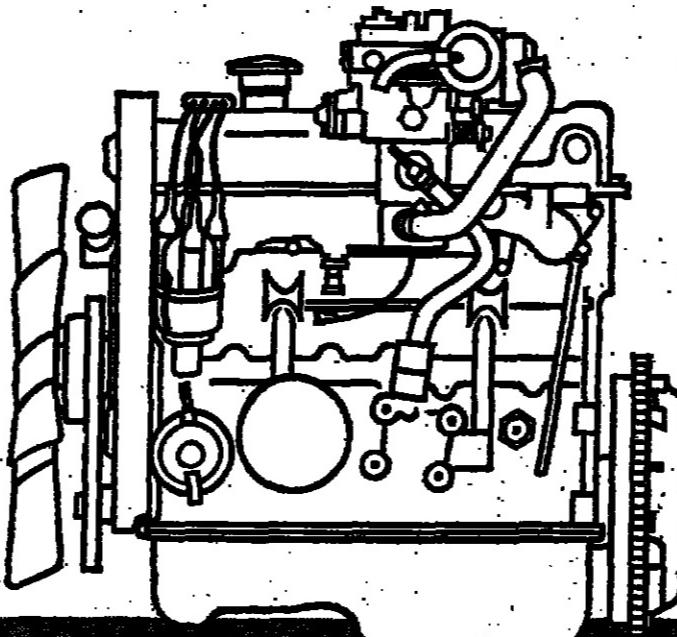
This will be especially good news for anyone who drives a company car.

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1.8 5-speed	47.1 (6.0)	37.2 (7.6)	31.4 (9.0)	110		
2.0 5-speed	48.7 (5.8)	38.2 (7.4)	27.4 (10.3)	116		
2.0 4-speed Auto	46.3 (6.1)	36.7 (7.7)	26.6 (10.6)	114		

*Ford computed figures.

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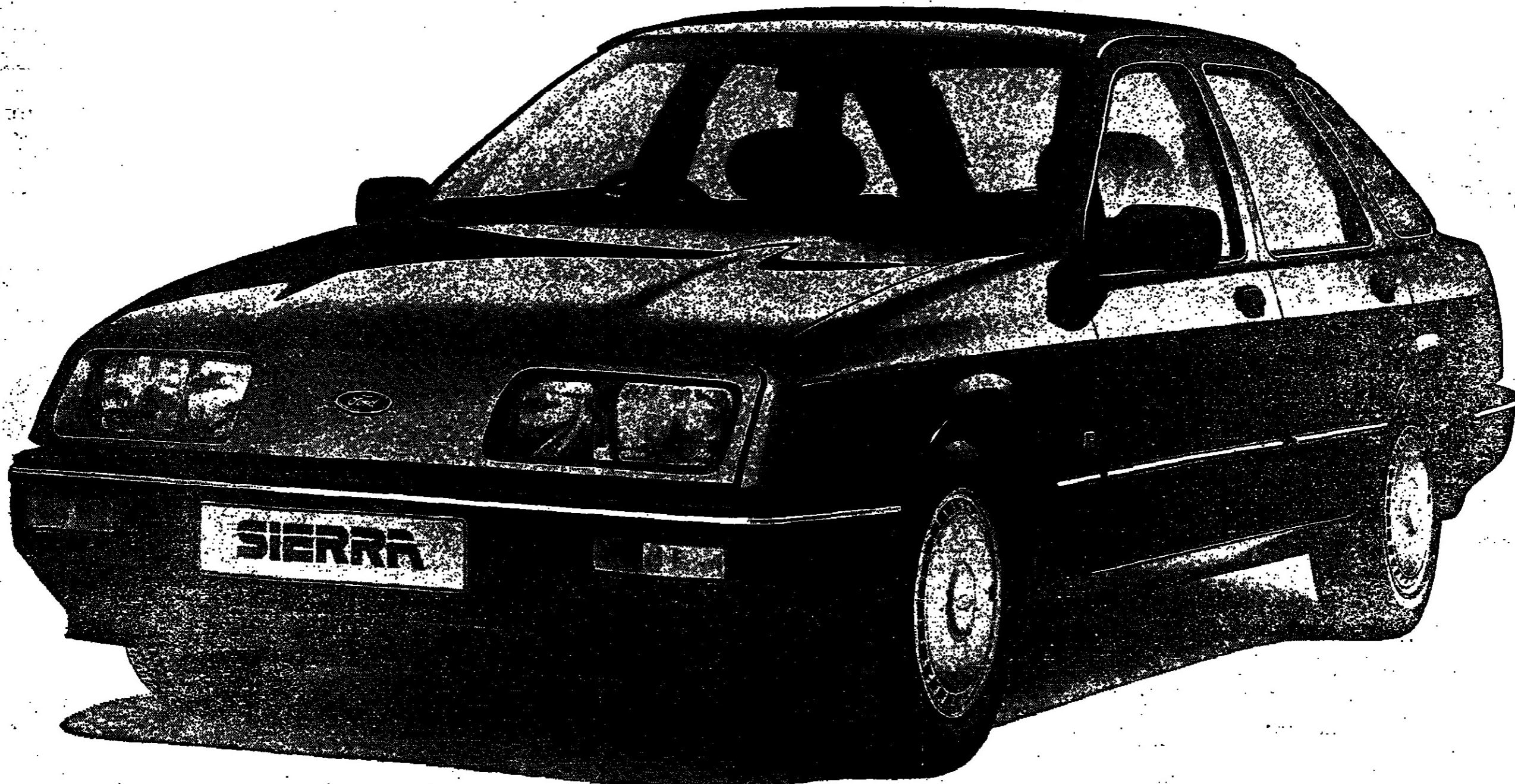
We've an advanced new 4-speed automatic gearbox - a new option for 2.0 litre models. The fourth gear is an overdrive which helps make it almost as economical as a 5-speed manual.

And there are many more detail improvements to the range - new wheel covers, new instruments and smarter interior trim to name a few.

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LONDON-DUBLIN RELATIONS 'FACE BREAKDOWN'

By Our Dublin Correspondent

FEARS of a complete breakdown in Anglo-Irish relations were expressed yesterday by Ireland's Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Spring, following sharp differences of opinion between Mrs Thatcher and Dr Garrett Fitzgerald.

Mr Spring's warning came as the rift between Dublin and London worsened and Dr Fitzgerald faced calls in Parliament for his resignation.

Dublin ministers have admitted since returning from the Chequers summit that there is serious deadlock between the two countries over future developments in Northern Ireland.

Dr Fitzgerald's position has been seriously undermined since Mrs Thatcher dismissed the solution put forward in the new Ireland Forum report and the Northern Ireland Secretary of State, Mr Douglas Hurd subsequently ruled that Dublin could have no executive role in Ulster.

Discuss options

Both Mr Spring and Mr Peter Barry, foreign minister, claimed yesterday that the IRA would be the only beneficiary from Britain's hardline position on Northern Ireland.

Mr Spring said he was not aware at this stage if Britain was willing to discuss options other than the three put forward by the New Ireland Forum—a united Ireland, confederal

tion and joint sovereignty over Ulster by Dublin and London.

Despite the disagreements at the Chequers meeting, Mr Spring said the Irish government was determined to keep dialogue open with London. It was their duty to try to retrieve the situation and make progress.

Dr Fitzgerald has been on the defensive since returning from the London summit.

He told a private meeting of his parliamentary party that Mrs Thatcher was gratuitously offensive at her post-summit press conference on Monday while Mr Barry said that Mrs Thatcher and Mr Hurd had acted disgracefully.

The unease over Dr Fitzgerald's handling of the summit talks spilled over into the Dublin parliament yesterday when Mr Charles Haughey, opposition leader, launched a bitter attack on him, called repeatedly for his resignation and told him he was not fit to continue as prime minister.

Dr Fitzgerald's advisers are believed to have recommended

that after being put on the defensive in the post-summit press conference he would have no option but to take a stronger stand on Ulster the next time he has talks with Mrs Thatcher.

Dublin officials were doubtful yesterday that he would have his customary side meeting with Mr Haughey when the EEC heads of government meet in Dublin on December 3 and 4 if the British side does not make some effort in the meantime to patch up the differences.

Row ends Speaker's 'honeymoon period'

By NICHOLAS COMFORT Political Staff

THE unruly and vehement scenes in the Commons on Wednesday night when Left-wing Labour MPs prevented Mr Fowler, Social Services Secretary, from making a statement on payments to the families of striking miners came at

a time when, in the view of most MPs, the behaviour of the House was improving.

Senior figures on both sides felt that all but the wildest elements had finally taken on board the strong public dis-

taste for "zoo-like" behaviour and exchanges which the radio broadcasting of its proceedings had brought.

And while Mr Dennis Skinner and a handful of other persistent flouters of Parliamentary convention have continued to be ordered from the House at regular intervals, Wednesday night's uproar was very much an exception from the tone of

proceedings had brought.

However, there have been a number of indications that if an opportunity arose, there might be some sort of concerted disruption by the Labour Left. And the strongest of these has been that on a series of occasions when MPs have been named for their conduct Left-wing MPs have divided the House against their suspension and gained up to 80 votes.

Significantly, a prime mover in these rebellions against the discipline of the Labour whips as well as the rulings of the Speaker was Mr Eric Heffer, who played a leading part in Wednesday night's demonstra-

tion.

Mr Heffer is seen by some fellow Left-wingers as being ready to play a "rogue elephant" role in the party with Mr Wedgwood Benn following his removal from the Shadow Cabinet.

The uproar over social security payments to strikers' families also marked, in the opinion of some, the end of the "honeymoon" period which the new Speaker, Mr Bernard Weatherill, has enjoyed with the House.

When deputy Speaker before

the last election, Mr Weatherill

on a couple of occasions found

himself which no Speaker

should late at night if it got

out of control. There were fears

voiced prior to his election as

Speaker last July that this

could occur.

Until Wednesday night, Mr Weatherill's most serious prob-

lem had appeared to be the

difficulty of securing consensus

among MPs for the suspension

of colleagues who had used

language he adjudged unpar-

liamentary. But that was not a

crucial matter.

MPs will now be waiting to

see whether the uproar is a

significant and lasting under-

mining of his authority, or an

episode with which no Speaker

would have been able to cope

without suspending the House.

The previous Speaker, Mr George Thomas (now Viscount Tonypandy) repeatedly found

himself lecturing MPs—espe-

cially the Labour Left—not only

on their standards of conduct

in the chamber but on the

effect such behaviour was hav-

ing on the listening public.

Shoal of letters

Several times he told them

that after each fresh incident

or rowdy Question Time he

received a shoal of letters com-

plaining about the tone of

proceedings, which greatly dis-

tressed him.

The advent of broadcasting

in the mid-70s certainly

created an impression among

the radio audience that Parlia-

mentary behaviour was already

outrageous and was getting

steadily worse.

One reason why the BBC

interrupted normal programmes

to broadcast the recent select

committee hearing on the sink-

hole of the General Belafonte

was officially given as the need

to demonstrate that Prime

Minister's Question Time was

the exception rather than the

rule.

Joseph impatient with Swann committee

By JOHN IZBICKI Education Correspondent

SIR KEITH JOSEPH, Education Secretary, has asked the entire Swann Committee, which has so far spent five years drafting a report on the education of children from ethnic minorities, to see him before their next full meeting.

His invitation comes as two prominent members of the committee have resigned.

Clearly, Sir Keith is becoming impatient with the 22-strong committee. He wants to see a completed report soon.

The latest resignations bring the total of those to quit to 10 since the inquiry was set up under the chairmanship of Mr Antony Rampton by Mrs Shirley Williams in 1979, when she was Labour Education Secretary.

Protest at changes

Mrs Anne Dummett, who was a research worker for the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants when appointed to the committee and is now director of the Runnymede Trust, has resigned in protest against the re-writing of a section of the report by Lord Swann, who became chairman in 1981.

Also to resign for the same reason was Fr Michael Hollings, former Roman Catholic chaplain to Oxford University, who has been parish priest at St Mary of the Angels in the heavily West Indian populated Notting Hill area since 1978.

Both he and Mrs Dummett feel that the revised chapter was placing too strong an emphasis on the home background of West Indian pupils as part of the explanation for their under-achievement at school.

SOUTHERN TIMETABLE 'CHAOTIC'

By JOHN PETTY Transport Correspondent

BRITISH RAIL is ready to concede that its economy drive on Southern Region has been over-

zealous, leading to chaotic conditions and an unworkable timetable on parts of the system.

It is about to start consulta-

tions with local authorities on a new round of timetable changes to be introduced next May to improve conditions.

The main problem is on the congested network serving south-east London and Kent.

Two efforts to solve the prob-

lems by revising the new time-

table introduced last May have failed to end the trouble.

Complaints have continued to

say they have not had a

single train run to time since

last May.

Under Government pressure,

Southern sought to cut costs by

taking many trains out of ser-

vice and working the remainder

more intensively. This also en-

abled them to reduce overtime.

But on its very complicated

network, it now means that al-

most the whole south-east divi-

sion can be disrupted for hours

by a single train running two

minutes late into the funnel of

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Full name(s) Mr/Mrs/Miss _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Date _____

Signature(s) _____

Date _____

DT/84

Abbey National Building Society

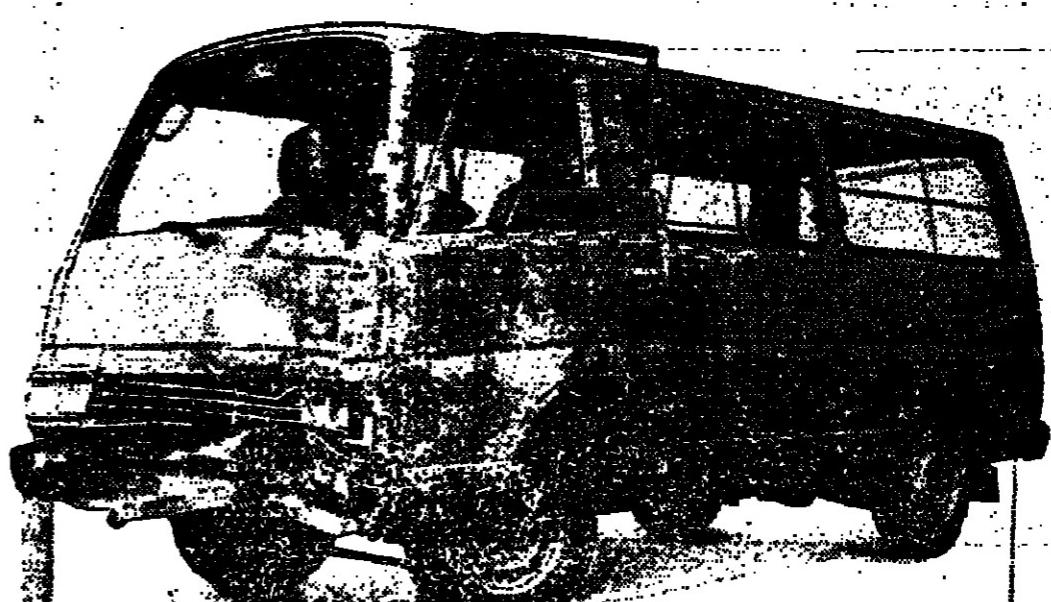
Abbey National Building Society

Abbey National Building Society



TOYOTA HIACE

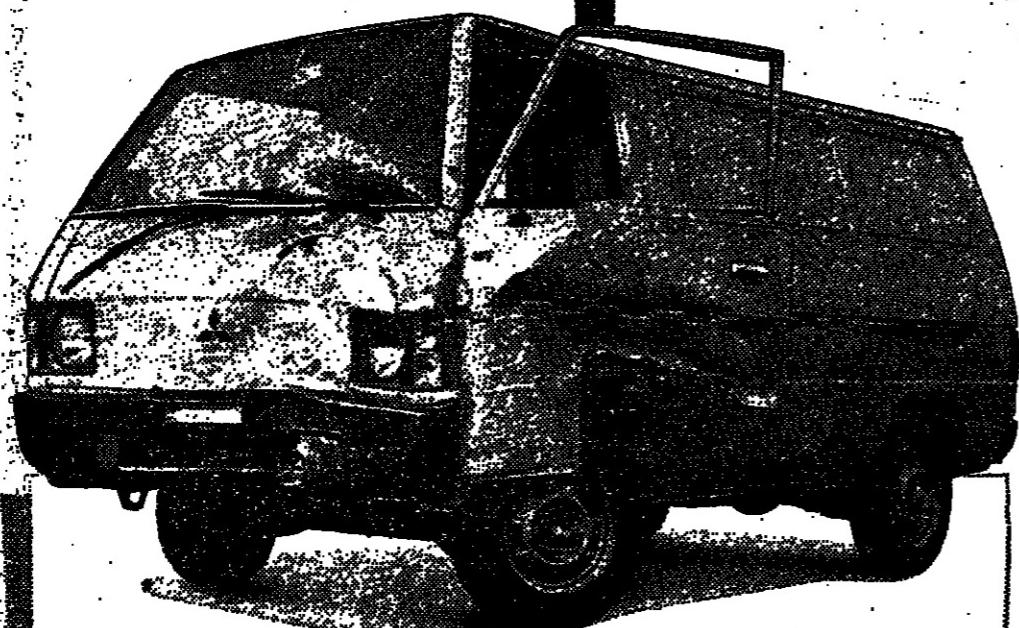
- □ Vehicle shortened 45cms.
- Strong deformation of floor plate on right.
- Significant displacement of dashboard and steering-system into interior.
- Steering-wheel forced up.
- Damage extends to rear frame area. Deformation involves entire left-hand side-panel.
- □ Driver's door can only be opened with heavy tools.
- Knee impact on dashboard. Head impact on steering-wheel.
- Total write-off.



NISSAN URVAN

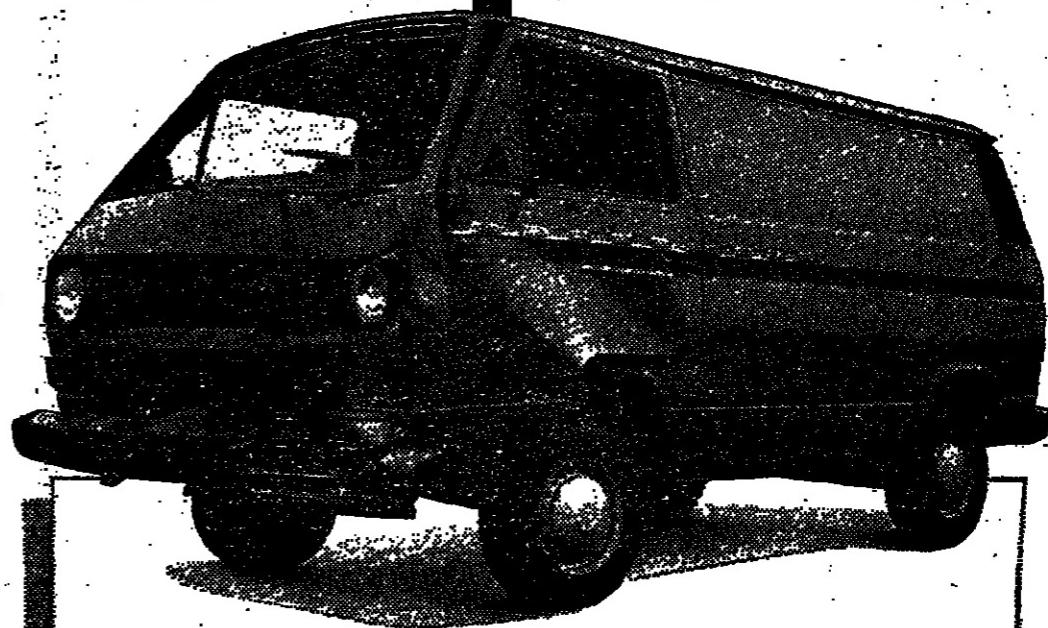
- □ Vehicle shortened 52cms.
- Hardly any footwell remaining.
- Steering-column forced up.
- Deformation of side-member, left side-panel and rear right side-panel.
- □ Driver's door can only be opened with heavy tools.
- Hydraulic jacks needed to extricate driver from badly condensed passenger compartment.
- Left leg completely trapped. Likewise upper torso from impact with steering-wheel. Foot deformed.
- Total write-off.

As crash tests go, this should pull you up short.



MITSUBISHI L 300

- □ Vehicle shortened 38cms.
- Strong deformation of passenger compartment.
- Leg-room severely compressed.
- Significant displacement of dashboard. Steering-wheel forced into interior (almost up to front seat). Steering-wheel itself deformed due to impact of thorax.
- □ Deformation of rear third of roof. Left-hand side-member buckled in front of rear-axle.
- □ Driver's door can only be opened with heavy tools.
- Splintered fragments embedded deep in knee joint. Right knee narrowly escaped handbrake lever. Clutch endangered calf.
- Total write-off.



VOLKSWAGEN TRANSPORTER

- □ Vehicle shortened 36cms.
- Only slight deformation of rigid steel safety cell.
- Footwell almost completely intact.
- Optimum energy-absorption in front part of side-members.
- Steering-wheel scarcely shifted into interior.
- □ Driver's door easily opened by hand.
- No injury to legs or feet. No specific impact on thorax or strain on head.
- Passengers could leave vehicle of their own accord.
- Repairable at reasonable cost.

The above conclusions are the result of a crash test* recently conducted by an independent organisation in Germany (using a dummy, you'll be glad to hear). As their report summed it up: "In contrast to the Japanese models tested, the VW Transporter affords excellent passenger safety equal to that of a car".

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Transporter.





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THIS AD REPRESENTS THE VIEWS OF LONDONERS.

IT'S GOING IN THE TIMES, THE GUARDIAN, THE DAILY TELEGRAPH AND THE PRIME MINISTER'S BIN.

It's unlikely that the Prime Minister will be very interested in reading this.

Because right from the start the Government hasn't been interested in any objections to their proposals to abolish the GLC. Even from their own MP's.

As far as they're concerned, you can either like it or lump it. Which is why they went ahead and published the Abolition Bill yesterday.

Even though they now know that over 74%* of Londoners are opposed to it.

Not all of these Londoners favour the current administration at County Hall either.

But it's the one that Londoners voted for at the last GLC elections. And the one that Londoners could have just as easily voted out at the next elections.

That is, had the Government not scrapped them.

Quite simply, the people of London want the right to decide for themselves who runs their city.

It's a right they deserve. One which they've had for almost a hundred years and one which people have in every other capital city in the western world.

The Government has attempted to excuse itself by talking about devolution.

That is, giving more power to the Borough Councils.

But it's pure deceit.

The fact of the matter is, in terms of expenditure over two thirds of the GLC's responsibilities won't go to the Borough Councils at all.

They'll go to Whitehall quangos and joint boards which are not directly elected.

A system of administration that isn't just undemocratic but one which politicians on both sides predict will result in organisational chaos.

In the first year alone, it will cost London ratepayers an extra £65 million.

It's a blatant misuse of central Government power which we will continue to campaign against on behalf of Londoners.

The Houses of Parliament have yet to approve the Bill before it becomes law.

The Government has turned its back on the people of London.

**We appeal to the House of Commons
and the House of Lords not to.**

SAY NO TO NO SAY.

Insiston...

HIGH & DRY
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£1m A YEAR SAVINGS, BUT ABOLITION WILL CUT 7,000 COUNCIL JOBS

By JOHN CRIGSBY Local Government Correspondent

MORE than 7,000 local government jobs would go as a result of the abolition of the Greater London Council and the six Metropolitan County Councils, the Government said yesterday when it published its Local Government Bill.

It estimates that a total of £1 million a year will be saved by the "rationalisation" alone. The GLC will account for about half the saving.

The Government estimates that there will be an extra 900 posts in public sector bodies which will take over the functions of the doomed councils in April 1986.

Redundancy payments in the first year are expected to amount to about £40 million but the public expenditure position for local councils will be reduced by £25 million in 1986-87.

The Government intends to make savings because the duplication between two tiers of local government would be removed and the transfer of services to the boroughs would lead to greater efficiency and economy.

Savings on grants

With the councils' abolition, the discretion for high spending on such items as transport subsidy grants to ethnic minorities and women's groups would disappear saving up to £50 million.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Local Government Minister, said yesterday that he was determined that the councils would be abolished on March 31, 1986.

"The task they now perform will be undertaken in future by the 32 London Borough Councils and the Metropolitan District Councils, individually or jointly and in a small number of cases by other bodies where this is more appropriate."

The six metropolitan county councils are West Midlands, Tyne and Wear, Merseyside, Greater Manchester, West Yorkshire and South Yorkshire.

Mr Baker, who will have the responsibility for piloting the Bill through the Commons said there would be a number of joint boards, or quangos.

In London, transport has already been transferred to London Regional Transport. The London fire service will be run by a body composed of one councillor from each London Council and a member of the City of London Common Council.

The Government also intends to set up residual bodies to be responsible for the council's

metropolitan county areas because, unlike the GLC, they do not own Green Belt land.

A wide variety of other jobs will go to the London boroughs and the metropolitan districts. These include the following jobs now done wholly or partly by the GLC and the counties: Responsibility for coroners, cemeteries, local valuation panels, recreation; funding and support for probation service; registration of commons; rights of way; safety of sports grounds; assistance to industry; safety of reservoirs and tourism.

In London, boroughs will take responsibility for building control, entertainment licensing; and funding and support for magistrates' courts in outer London. In the metropolitan counties, the districts will take over the responsibility for the Peak District National Park, the rent officer service, school crossing patrols and the sea fisheries committee; gypsies, parks and sport.

Transfer of jobs

The Government says that many operational staff can expect to be transferred in groups under the "ring fencing" arrangements to their new employer. Group transfer might also be appropriate for some specialist staff, for example those dealing with superannuation.

But staff will not, as a matter of course, be offered jobs with the successor bodies.

A staff commission will ensure that GLC and metropolitan county employees have proper opportunity to obtain posts, but the boroughs and districts will not be forced to take on staff they do not need.

The Government proposes that staff transferred to the joint boards will go on their existing salaries and conditions.

But those who are recruited cannot be guaranteed existing terms and conditions.

The Government accepts that there may be compulsory redundancies, but says this will be only a small proportion of the 20,000 staff now employed by the GLC and the 32,000 by the metropolitan counties.

Where staff are made redundant, the Government proposes that the general day-to-day government should apply. But they are considering some improvements for certain age groups.

Critical reaction

Reaction from the councils affected—all Labour controlled—and the Labour front bench was deeply critical. Dr John Cunningham, the Labour environmental spokesman, said that abolition could only yield the savings claimed if services and jobs were "slashed" by the successor boards and quangos.

Dr Cunningham alleged that at least two-thirds of the spending of the doomed councils would be vested in joint boards or quangos.

"Any claim that these boards

will be accountable to their

constituent bodies is laughable. Their manpower budgets and expenditure will be under the direct control of the Environment Secretary."

Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the GLC, said: "It is disaster day for London. Abolition is not cheap, not democratic and not needed. A century of local government in London is being destroyed to satisfy the Prime Minister's personal vendette against the GLC."

Mrs Margaret Hodge, chairman of the Labour-controlled Association of London Authorities, said that their members would not be able to cope with the transfer of powers. "We will not step in and take over from the GLC."

Mr John Gunnell, leader of West Yorkshire County Council, who has led the campaign for the metropolitan counties, said that they were consoled by the poor quality of the Bill. "Where is the reasoned case for abolition? Where is the simpler system we were promised?" he asked.

Mr Alan Greengross, leader of the Tory Opposition on the GLC, welcomed the fact that the "monolith" was being scrapped.

In setting up the London planning commission, the government had recognised that there must be a London-wide body but it did not go far enough.

"It must be wrong that the greatest capital city in the world is left without a London-wide heart." He said that a large and growing number of Tory MPs felt the same.

HELICOPTER CREW WIN AWARD

The three-man crew of an RAF Wessex helicopter who rescued two men from the North Sea in a force 9 gale in May have received the Edward and Maisie Lewis award, the highest bravery award of the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society.

Adm. of the Fleet Lord Lewin, president of the society, presented the award to "D" Flight, 22 Squadron, based at RAF Leconfield, Sqdn Ldr Christopher Paish (captain and pilot), Master Navigator Ronald Dedman, and Master Air Loader David Allen (winchman).

The winchman was taken to hospital with a broken rib, two cracked ribs, six clipped vertebrae and a badly bruised back.

GIRLS DIE IN FIRE

Two young girls died when fire swept through their home near Edinburgh yesterday. Susan Barr, six, and her sister Lesley, four, were taken from their flat at Carlowrie Place, Gorebridge, Midlothian, by police and firemen but were dead on arrival at hospital.



Sebastian Coe sitting in front of a portrait of himself yesterday at the National Portrait Gallery, where an exhibition of contemporary portraits opens today. The artist Martin Rose is behind the 1500 metres Olympic champion, who said of the painting: "It is very representative of me at various levels. I like it very much."

Heseltine wants to cut information jobs

By Maj. Gen. Edward Furdon Defence Correspondent

THE Defence Secretary, Mr Heseltine, has called for a report by Dec. 31 showing how the Defence Ministry's worldwide public relations staff of 320 civilians and Servicemen can be cut to 200.

At present the Ministry spends £41 million a year on public relations.

Mr Heseltine believes the department is too large and costly for its peacetime role.

Of the present public relations staff only 67 belong to the Ministry, not least over its deadline which leaves little time available for constructive consultation.

The official view is that Mr Heseltine will not take decisions on the new report until after he has seen and considered the wide-ranging final report on the Defence Ministry's public relations carried out by University College, Cardiff.

Lloyds Bank Interest Rates

Lloyds Bank Plc has reduced its Base Rate from 10% to 9.5% p.a. with effect from Friday 23rd November, 1984.

Other rates of interest are reduced as follows:

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HEATH HEADS BACKBENCH ATTACK OVER HOWE'S CUTBACKS

By PETER PRYKE and ANTHONY LOOCH

CUTS in the spending of the BBC's external services and of the British Council, announced by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign Secretary, in the Commons last night, were condemned by Mr Heath as being against the national interest.

Conservative rebels, who were also unhappy about the Foreign Secretary's failure to give assurances that foreign aid would be maintained at the same level next year, cheered Mr Heath as he criticised Sir Geoffrey's speech.

Pointing out that the Public Borrowing Requirement had risen by £1.2 million more this year than anticipated, the former Prime Minister said:

"Here we are dealing with things of major national interest, saving a million here and £750,000 there."

"It is entirely out of proportion," he added, amid cheers from both sides of the House.

Sir GEOFFREY had told MPs that he was looking for savings of £1.2 million in the spending of the British Council, and about £1 million from the BBC external services.

He won his only cheer from his own supporters when he announced that Britain was to receive notice of withdrawal from Unesco by the end of next year, with the proviso that the decision would be reconsidered if the organisation reformed itself meanwhile.

Service charges

In addition to the cuts, and the closing of ten small missions abroad, Sir Geoffrey announced that the Foreign Office was to obtain about £4 million from charges for some of its services.

There was to be a new £10 fee for entry certificates for Commonwealth citizens and the charge for entry clearance for foreign nationals coming to the United Kingdom was to be increased from £6 to £10.

On foreign aid, Sir Geoffrey pointed out that over the next three years expenditure was expected to increase faster than British inflation.

But his critics noted that he did not give an assurance that foreign aid would not be cut next year.

Mr HEATH criticised Sir Geoffrey for not securing more money for Foreign Office spending in his negotiations with the Chancellor, Mr Lawson, and about the "automacy" of his

approach that everything should be within a cash limit increase of three per cent.

"It is in our interest we should extend our influence in every way," he said.

Mr Heath described the decision of leaving Unesco "inevitable". Britain's influence would be diminished by cutting out, and instead the Government should join with the EEC and Commonwealth countries in seeking reform.

Already limited

The debate was opened by Mr RUSSELL JOHNSTON (Lab., Inverness), who moved a resolution opposing any reduction in the real value of "the already limited overseas aid budget," and rejecting proposals to maintain the budget by cutting expenditure on the British Council or BBC external services.

He said it would be difficult to make any cut in the external services without a totally disproportionate effect. A 10 per cent. cut in the budget meant a 50 per cent. cut in output, which made no sense at the present time.

We do not think that the public or the great majority of MPs want to see the overseas aid budget cut in any way whatsoever.

The Government should follow the lead of the British people and make sure there is no reduction in the help this country gives to the poor and underprivileged of the world."

Exchange rates

Defending the cuts, Sir GEOFFREY said the Government's central economic policy of controlling spending had to be maintained, otherwise our capacity to defend our interests abroad and our ability to help the Third World would be undermined.

He voiced the view that with the advent of new spraying equipment it was possible to concentrate spray on the farm area where it is needed with no aerial spraying at all.

had to take account of the fact that Government spending was planned in terms of the cash cost of each programme, and he had to take into account factors such as movement of exchange rates.

He stressed the Government's commitment to maintaining the quality of service provided by Britain's overseas diplomatic missions, but said costs had been rising due to the need to provide increased security.

"I have decided it would be right to close about ten small posts—almost all of them are subordinate posts."

Progress on reform

Sir Geoffrey criticised Unesco for not giving "value for money," but acknowledged that some progress had been made on reform.

"But we cannot at this stage be confident that adequate reforms will necessarily be achieved by the end of 1985 and it would be wrong not to safeguard our position."

The British Council faced particular difficulties in some countries from inflation, and he was saving for £1.2 million a year.

Dr MARK HUGHES (Lab., Durham), intervening, said:

"As vice-chairman of the British Council I will consider my position as to whether we will continue bi-partisan vice-chairmanship of that authority."

Sir GEOFFREY said it would not be right for the Government to meet the full amount of the increase in the cost of the BBC external services, and he was looking for savings of about one per cent. in their total spending.

There would still be increased Government provision of about 750,000 and the £100 million capital programme to improve audibility would be maintained.

Sir Geoffrey said provision for the overseas aid programme remained unchanged at £1,150 million.

Mr ROY JENKINS (SOC. DEM., Hillhead) said he did not believe such cuts had been imposed by the Government for the past five years.

He spoke of the long-term damage that would result from changing the BBC's overseas programmes. You cannot put up and out of programme, and expect to keep your audience," he said.

Mr HEATH: Entirely out of proportion.



Mr HEATH: Entirely out of proportion.



Mr DU CANN: Doing less than he might.

not believe, in general, that there was any extravagance in Britain's diplomatic representation abroad.

"We spend on Fortress Falklands between £500 million and a billion pounds a year. We spend on our defence budget, which on the whole I am in favour of, £17 billion a year. We are proposing to spend on Trident, over a five-year period, between £10 billion and £12 billion."

"I hope these defence expenditures are primarily to increase our influence in the world, and not to blow it up. To spend these vast sums and then single out a few million for making Britain's voice heard seems to show a total lack of proportion."

Mus do more

Mr EDWARD DU CANN (C. Taunton) said that as far as overseas aid was concerned, there was no moral dilemma for Britain. "There is only one moral imperative. We do too little for our fellow man, and it is our duty to do all we can."

"I hope we would say clearly to our friends in government during this debate that at this moment we are doing less than we might, and we must do more."

Sir ANTHONY KERSHAW (C. Stroud), chairman of the Commons Foreign Affairs Select Committee, said he was also vice-chairman of the British Council.

He deplored the three per cent. cut in the Council's activi-

ties and said such cuts had been imposed by the Government for the past five years.

He also spoke of the long-term damage that would result from changing the BBC's overseas programmes. You cannot put up and out of programme, and expect to keep your audience," he said.

Mr FRANCIS PYM (C, Cambridgeshire, S.E.) said the aid programme was being maintained at the expense of the diplomatic service, the Overseas Service of the BBC and the British Council.

Mr Pym said he thought the Government had got its priorities wrong, and the amount it was saving was trivial.

Cuts in the foreign service had already gone too far and were now "positively damaging" to British interests. "Quite frankly, the diplomatic service is now being starved to the point of foolhardiness."

Opposition charged that the £1 increase in weekly deduction from Supplementary Benefit for striking families was callous and vindictive.

Opposition charged that the £1 increase in weekly deduction from Supplementary Benefit for striking families was callous and vindictive.

The Government had replied to a specific request from the Opposition for a statement and was then prevented—"almost unreasonably," he said—from making that statement.

"I hope the Labour Front Bench will associate themselves last night."

"Every single thing you say you should turn against the NUM for their callousness in not looking after their members—calling them out on strike without a ballot and refusing to give them any help during the strike."

Hattersley taunt

Mr HATTERSLEY, deputising for Mr Kinnoch, who is in Moscow, taunted Mrs Thatcher with her own words last week about the Opposition leader lacking the guts to face striking miners and condemn violence on the picket lines.

Angered because Mr Fowler had announced the £1 increase in a written answer instead of verbally to M Ps, Mr Hattersley challenged: "Why do you not have the guts to come down and explain it yourself?"

Deductions are made from the payment of benefits because unions are deemed to provide strike pay, though the NUM does not rest. Labour has decided to use one of the opposition days to debate the Government's action on Monday.

Disorderly conduct

Mr WEATHERILL, who addressed the House on Wednesday after having suspended it for 10 minutes, said: "For centuries this House has seen the strongest expression of conflict of opinion and policy and over the centuries this

Ban urged on aerial spraying

By WALTER ABURN
Parliamentary Staff

ALLIANCE peers would be happy to consider a complete prohibition on the aerial spraying of farms said Lord WALSTON (SOC. DEM.) yesterday in the Lords when peers gave a second reading to the Government Food and Environment Protection Bill.

He voiced the view that with the advent of new spraying equipment it was possible to concentrate spray on the farm area where it is needed with no aerial spraying at all.

This would prevent accidents when children, pets, gardens and sometimes people were sprayed with pesticides and stop indiscriminate spraying which destroyed flies, beetles and birds sheltering in hedgerows.

But farmers should retain their right to buy pesticides and fertilisers abroad where they were cheaper, with no impediment.

Lord BELSTEAD, Agriculture Minister in the Lords, said the Bill's three parts dealt with power to take emergency precautionary action to stop the human consumption of contaminated food.

Labour peers supported the general principle that spraying had to be controlled in every

There were also powers over way.

This would prevent accidents when children, pets, gardens and sometimes people were sprayed with pesticides and stop indiscriminate spraying which destroyed flies, beetles and birds sheltering in hedgerows.

Labour peers supported the general principle that spraying had to be controlled in every

There were also powers over way.

Speaker warns Labour MPs about behaviour

By WILLIAM WEEKES Parliamentary Staff

LABOUR MPs who brought the Commons to a halt amid uproar on Wednesday night were warned by the SPEAKER, Mr Weatherill, yesterday that their behaviour undermined the authority of Parliament.

House has jealously guarded its procedures of free debate.

"I remind the House that if its proceedings are brought to a halt by disorderly conduct, and this does include refusal to hear the election of others, this long tradition is damaged and violated, and the authority of Parliament is undermined.

His words were directed at about 30 backbenchers who gathered defiantly in front of the table and shouted furiously at Ministers.

The row was over the payment of social security benefits to the families of striking miners.

As a result of the uproar, Mrs FOWLER, Social Services Secretary, stopped from making a statement which Labour MPs had specifically requested.

Opposition charged that the £1 increase in weekly deduction from Supplementary Benefit for striking families was callous and vindictive.

The Government had replied to a specific request from the Opposition for a statement and was then prevented—"almost unreasonably," he said—from making that statement.

"I hope the Labour Front Bench will associate themselves last night."

"Every single thing you say you should turn against the NUM for their callousness in not looking after their members—calling them out on strike without a ballot and refusing to give them any help during the strike."

Hattersley taunt

Mr HATTERSLEY, deputising for Mr Kinnoch, who is in Moscow, taunted Mrs Thatcher with her own words last week about the Opposition leader lacking the guts to face striking miners and condemn violence on the picket lines.

Angered because Mr Fowler had announced the £1 increase in a written answer instead of verbally to M Ps, Mr Hattersley challenged: "Why do you not have the guts to come down and explain it yourself?"

Deductions are made from the payment of benefits because unions are deemed to provide strike pay, though the NUM does not rest. Labour has decided to use one of the opposition days to debate the Government's action on Monday.

Disorderly conduct

Mr WEATHERILL, who addressed the House on Wednesday after having suspended it for 10 minutes, said: "For centuries this House has seen the strongest expression of conflict of opinion and policy and over the centuries this

"Do you still not realise that such callousness confirms our long-held view that you are less concerned with the waste and suffering of the miners' dispute than the hope of securing a cheap political victory?

"Why do you consistently pretend this is necessary under the Act when the Act gives you powers to change the regulations?"

One of the noisiest moments in a rowdy 15 minutes came as Dr OWEN, leader of the S.D.P., tried to put a question to the Prime Minister. Labour MPs kept up a barrage of shouting, almost drowning him out.

After the Speaker had restored order, Dr Owen said: "I will stand here until hell freezes over."

Dr Owen, when he could make himself heard, said the Government had shown more sensitivity and been fairer to the families of striking miners if the deduction had only been increased from £1.5 to £1.50.

COMING DEBATES

HOUSE OF LORDS

Tues: Debates on proposals to televised Lords proceedings and the proposed abolition of the £1 note. Local Government and Social Security Orders.

Wed: Short debates on the needs of the long-term unemployed, on the production and sale of educational books, and on measures to prevent famine-like that in Ethiopia.

Thurs: Prosecution of Offences Bill. 2nd reading: Debate on the investigation and inspection powers of the European Commission.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Mon: Debate on an Opposition motion entitled: "Further reduction in the real value and purchasing power of miners' families." Social Security Bill. 2nd reading: Motion on the Coal (Payments Schemes) (Amendment) Order and on the Coal (Limit of Miners' Grants) Order.

Tuesday: Debate on an Opposition motion to safeguard the natural environment and the national heritage of Britain". Motion on the Repair Grants (Airey House) Variations Order and the Okemah (Compulsory Purchase) Orders.

Wednesday: Composition of remaining stages of the Elections (Northern Ireland) Bill: motions on the Northern Ireland Orders on road traffic, family law and loans (increase of limit).

Thurs: Debate on the Royal Navy: Motion on an EEC document on summertime arrangements; Motion on EEC document on red meat and dairy measures on imports implants to cattle.

Fri: Private members' motions. Mon Dec. 3: Local Government Bill. 2nd reading.

Today in Parliament

HOUSE OF COMMONS

8.30am: Debate on the report of the War and Peace Committee on human fertilisation and embryology.

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BR

THE ARTS

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The Killing Fields (15)

Warner West End

Maria's Lovers (15)

Classic, Haymarket

A Private Function (15)

Odeon, Haymarket (Nov. 30)

Annie's Coming Out (PG)

Classic, Chelsea

The Glitter Dome (18)

A.C.B. Shaftesbury Ave.

A Christmas Story (PG)

Plaza

NOTORIOUSLY, a big budget

is no guarantee of a fine film,

rather the contrary, I would

say. While there are

some effective scenes in the David

Putnam production *The Killing*

Fields, made or \$15 million

I found it unsatisfactory as a

whole.

The basis is factual — on the

friendship between the New

York Times special correspond-

ent, Sydney Schanberg and his

assistant, Ith Pran, and their

experiences when reporting the

war, or perhaps I should say

wars, in Cambodia in 1975-76,

where, if effect, a postscript

was being written to the larger

conflict in Vietnam.

Despite some small reporting

of these wars at the time, Cam-

bodia only qualifies as "a

far-off country" of which we

know little, and it seems one

of Pran's objectives that, even

this late date, 10 years

after we should know more of

its ast.

As, while locations in that

part of the world bring authen-

ticity, and such events as the

aerial bombing of the town

of Phnom Penh and later the

rebel's capture of

Phnom Penh make harrowing

scenes as caught by the direc-

tor, Roland Joffe, with much

realism, some facts important

to our understanding of what

we see find no place in the

narrative.

That the Vietcong had been

occupying areas of Cambodia

fronting on South Vietnam with

the intention of out-flanking the

Americans I heard no mention

at all. So the American bom-

ming of these enemy enclaves,

whether legal or not, is made

to seem gradually destruc-

tive, though strategically desir-

able against a threat to the

U.S. withdrawal and South

Vietnamese independence.

So, from the very start when

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ROBERT HALE

TRAVELS OF A NAIPAUL

By Anthony Powell

Beyond the Dragon's Mouth: Stories and Pieces. By Shiva Naipaul. (Hamish Hamilton. £12.50.)

THE Naipaul brothers are considered to some extent with the scourges of humbug. They see things with an ironical and unforced realism that is at once laughter-provoking and disturbing. V. S. Naipaul, the elder, needs no introduction these days. Shiva Naipaul, perhaps a shade less known, is also much to be recommended.

More obscure in subject are the Bush Negroes of Surinam. This is one of the Netherlands colony on the South American coast north of Brazil, a jungle population of perhaps as many as 70,000 descended from escaped slaves. The Dutch had the reputation of being the least humane of slave-owners, so much so that the first treat to an unsatisfactory slave was that he would be sold to a Dutch master. Mr. Naipaul travelled up the river to visit these strange survivals.

Nowadays it is becoming increasingly modish to build weekend huts in the middle of the bush. To these come Para-maribo's middle-class radicals, anxious to imbibe the wisdom of the bush folk... I met a schoolteacher, a man who readily described himself as a Marxist. He was not only—predictably—hostile to Christianity and the work of the missions along the river, but also opposed to government attempts to grant individual land titles to the villagers... It was not in accord with the ways of the ancestors. Marxism and tribal conservatism has fused, become one and the same thing.

Lord Scarman, it will be remembered, wrote in his report on the Brixton disorders: "The true Rastafarian is deeply religious, essentially humble and sad... the dreadlocks, the headgear and the colours, which he affects, are a daily reminder to him of Africa and a witness to a world of his belief that his exiled people must return there."

Mr. Naipaul went in search of what he describes as the "Holy Grail of the true Rasta-farian," so revered by Lord Scarman. The quest cannot be described as either rewarding or convincing for the seeker in the Portobello Road or elsewhere.

Whether by night or by day, it takes courage to enter the Apollo public house. Near the entrance cluster knots of dazed-looking blacks if you look at a promising prospect you will, in all probability, be surrounded. There all similarity ended.

When, after Labour's brief first experiment in government, Baldwin returned again in 1924 and put Churchill into the Treasury, Chamberlain went back to Health joyfully—imagine that today!—and proved the best all-round administrator in the Cabinet.

He eventually became Prime Minister, says Professor Dilks, "because of a proved record of administrative ability, forensic skill and knowledge of the party."

Neville was a contrast also to his half-brother, Austen. Reading of their relationships, Lord Scarman was on to something. To Austen the prizes of political life counted a lot; he was easily offended. To Neville such prizes were duties; and Richard II means Strauss as distinct from Wagner. But surely "Doing a Wagner" is not only a soloist's debut, as Spiegel has it, but a critic's choice?

He calls it a very personal kind of Dictionary of Musicians' Jargon, Shop-Talk and of Wicked Stories about the Profession. Outsiders do well to learn that "The Forty-Eight" is not a revolution but refers to the Preludes and Fugues of Bach's Well-Tempered Clavier.

The "Archduke" is Beethoven's B flat and Trio, but be careful: "The Emperor" may be Beethoven's E flat Concerto or Haydn's "Kaiser" Quartet.

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The collectors' corner

By Richard Conduit

FEW among us can expect to collect anything much in the way of precious stones. But we can dream, and Benjamin Zucker's "Gems and Jewels: a Connoisseur's Guide" (Thames & Hudson, £20) is the stuff that dreams are made of.

It is sumptuously produced with many coloured photographs and takes us store by store from ruby, sapphire, emerald and diamond through to jade, opal and garnet. The chemical content is discussed and the reader is shown where to find fine examples. The prose sparkles a bit brightly, but then it is difficult to write prosaically about gems.

One could guess that no jeweller's business has handled more precious stones than Cartier. Hans Nadelhofer has written a much illustrated history, "Cartier: Jewellers Extraordinary" (Thames & Hudson, £25), in which he charts the growth of the firm from its modest Parisian beginnings, its expansion under the founder's three sons who made its name as familiar among Indian Princes as among American millionaires, to its present state under new ownership.

Far more modest in its scope, but very good value is Diana Scarisbrick's "Jewellery" (Batsford, £25). This is a sensible historical survey of the wearing of gems from the beginning of the 17th century. Not much colour, but plenty of good black-and-white plates. Also in the "Costume Accessories" series at the same price, is Hélène Alexander's "Fans" which is again historical and makes good use of paintings to show fans in use.

"Starting to Collect Silver" (Antique Collectors' Club, £14.50), by John Luddington, is much more than a primer. It does indeed assume no knowledge but with plenty of black-and-white illustrations and resort to question and answer sessions soon has the reader looking at his own pieces with new knowledgeability. Douglas Bennett's "Collecting Irish Silver, 1657-1900" (£14.50) is aimed at the more informed. It has a valuable appendix listing marks and makers.

Hugo Morley-Fletcher and Roger McIlroy have, in "Christie's Pictorial History of European Pottery" (Pitman, £25), been able to rely on objects they have passed through the auction house as illustrations. This wide ranging survey covers all Northern Europe, though as its title implies it does not include porce-

Line and length

CAN you really give the cricketer in the family yet another anthology this Christmas? The answer is an emphatic "Yes" in the case of "The Joy of Cricket" (Secker, £12.95) ad of "A Walk to the Wicket" edited by Ted Dexter and David Lemmon (Allen & Unwin, £9.95). Be a devil, and give them (or her) both, for these are among the best of their kind.

"The Joy of Cricket" is produced on shiny paper that ensures beautiful reproduction of the many illustrations. Its editor, John Bright-Holmes, has chosen widely and well, with not always the obvious selection. For example, we have C. S. Marriott on Parkin as a change from Cardus, but Cardus on Compton at his best. Alan Ross on H. T. Bartlett is a gem. The text of the victory calypso is included, as is an evocative piece by Michael Meyer on Wooller. Bert Sutcliffe's heroic 80, after injury, for New Zealand at Johannesburg in 1955 is thrillingly told by Ray Robison.

But it's not all ancient heroes. Borcott, Greg Chappell, Viv Richards and Gavaskar are described, but who will be found to do justice to the conspicuous absentee, Botham? The only concession to trendiness is the inclusion of a piece by Roy Hattersley; rather unkind, because he is not in the Sackson-Blunden-Moorhouse league.

Michael Kennedy

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Taking bulls by the horns

By John Coldstream

"I CAN take them with a dose of salts," said Sam Goldwyn, referring to the abuses of his adopted tongue with which he inadvertently staked a second claim to immortality and, in the process, adding another "Goldwynism" to the collection.

He found was this single source that Patrick Hughes adds a 14-page appendix to "Mars on Oxymoron" (Cape, £7.95), showing how the Polish emigre-turned-muck provided one or several examples for each of ten bulls under scrutiny in the book. This generic term, commonly known as the Irish Bull, is restricted by the dictionary to "an expression containing contradiction in terms, or implying ludicrous inconsistency." But Mr Hughes, who describes himself as "short-sighted and impulsive," has identified other distinct themes to add to the pietism, the tautology and the eponymous oxymoron.

Goldwyn's every utterance seemed to fit the bull. As an example of the "obvious," Mr Hughes cites: "The reason so many people showed up at Louis B. Mayer's funeral was because they wanted to make sure he was dead." As "ignorance" goes, "—where the usual disposition is transposed he recalls Goldwyn is standing at the rail of a Transatlantic liner leaving New York and shouting to his assembled relatives, friends and employees: "Bon voyage! Bon voyage!"

Each of the figures in Mr Hughes's lively diagnosis has a visual equivalent. But the spilled-ink gag from the joke shop (oxymoron) and Magritte's drawing of a candle giving forth darkness (contradiction in terms) lack the honest spontaneity of the spoken word. Dexter that the names of Indian government."

of wit travels like some mail-train, plucking at bags of values labelled the "wordsmiths," "showbiz" or "the human appetites."

W.C. Fields's

agitated "What contemptible scoundrel stole the cork from my lunch?" occurs in both the second and third categories.

Gerald Ford's "Ronald Reagan doesn't die his hair—he's just prematurely orange" has as much resonance now as it did in 1974. And Denis Healey, "came to fame for Mr Sherrin by describing a debt with Sir Geoffrey Howe as "like being savaged by a dead sheep." A year later the admiral Healey was adapting it to "being nibbled by a heartburn."

It is odd to find Henry Root (alias William Donaldson), whose letters struck home in all areas of public life four years ago, confined by Mr Sherrin to the sporting section, offering Brian Clough £1 to buy a foreign player and suggesting to Ted

cricketers do not matter — just say, "Oh dear, the ball went straight through the little sooty's legs." It was the conjunction of Root's outrageous rejoinder which made the first volume so irresistible.

A brave attempt has been made to out-Root Donaldson by Brian Bethell, in "The Defence of W. Morgan Petty" (Viking, £6.95), charting the campaign to establish a nuclear-free zone at 3, Cherry Drive, Canterbury. Radio 4 listeners will recall a drab serialisation, but the book comes alive with the carefully reasoned game-playing by some of his distinguished correspondents.

Sir Austin Pearce of British Aerospace warns of the danger to "slabidi and other living matter" from the downburst of a Hawker if Petty buys one to keep in the garden. Lord Hill-Norton and Carter offer respectively a sensible and a Swedish cavalry officer's sabre to thicken up your defences."

More headed notepaper, this time from the Department of Administrative Affairs, is reproduced under the 30-year rule in "The Complete Yes Minister — The Diaries of a Cabinet Minister by the Rt Hon. James Hacker, M.P." (B.C. £8.75). This suavely-bound, 500-page volume is brilliantly edited by Jonathan Lynn and Antony Jay, who write from Hackney College, Oxford, in September 2018, that the diaries "represent a unique contribution to our understanding of the way that Britain was governed in the 1980s." Many a true word.

Messrs. Lynn and Jay are making good the shortage they have

found of "comic literature that takes on the realities of modern government."

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Other books for Christmas also include John Keay's Highland Drums (£9.95), an epic journey undertaken by the author, family, friends, and animals. Eric Newby says it's "A lovely book, takes you out of the 20th century, and a review of his Origo's diary written half-way between 1943-44, Martin Vaill's *Death* (£9.95)—a story of great generosity, courage, and even heroism."

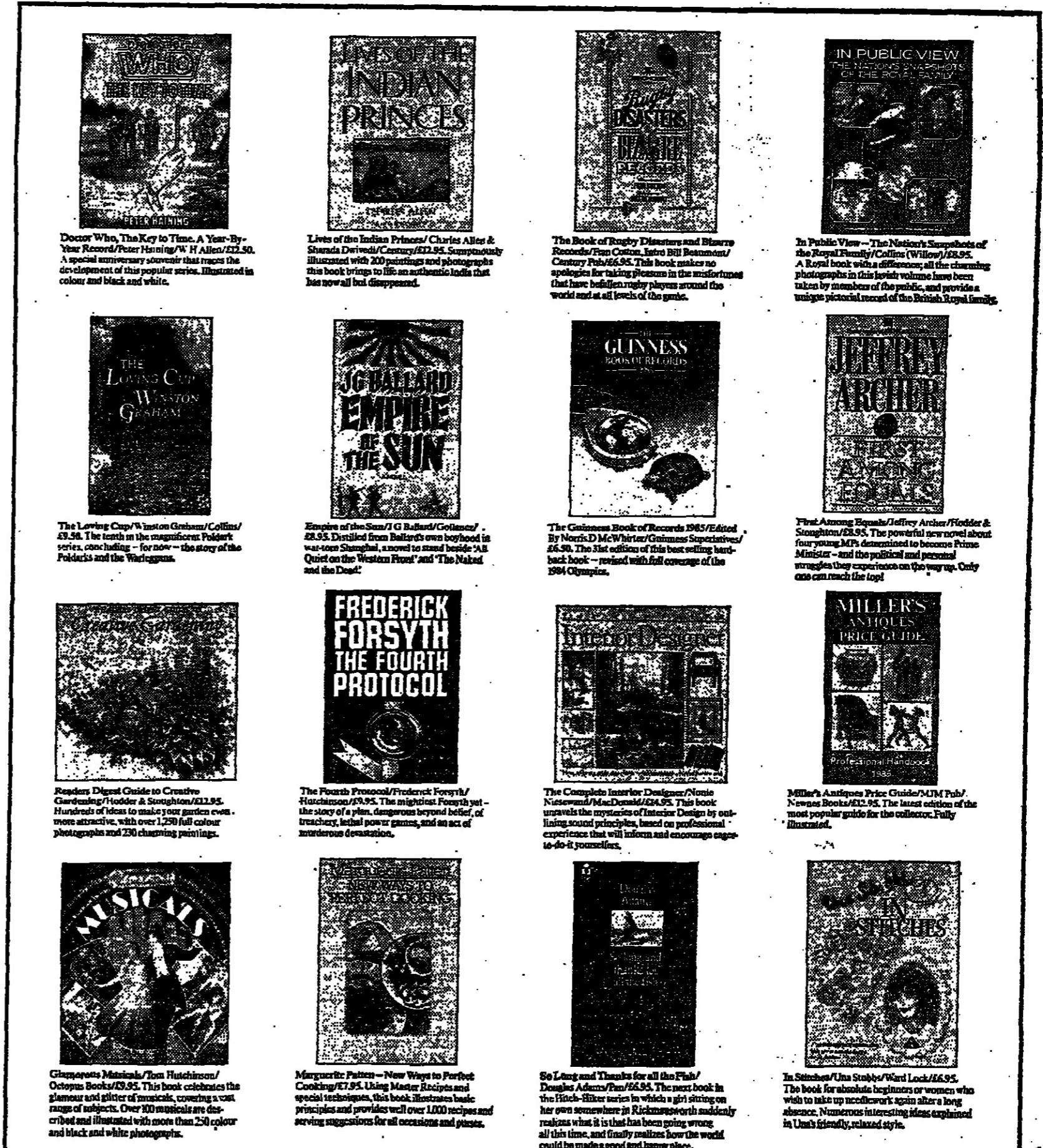
JOHN MURRAY

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WHSMITH

CHRISTMAS

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SPARKLING PRETTILY WITH A TOUCH OF VICTORIANA

ONCE children went to Christmas parties dressed in a rainbow of vibrant colours or sugar-almond pastels; not any longer, it seems, judging from the cry of black and grey party dresses the shops are busy selling.

Even if almost the only colour at parties this Christmas could be in the partygoers' cheeks and sparkling eyes,

there is a touch of Victorian demureness in these reticent neutrals which could bring out all the charm of fresh young skins.

C & A, that highly successful store, obviously believes so, for in its recently-launched (and much-needed) small range of teenage clothes, it is confidently playing up grey and black.

IN THE SKETCH

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

Demure little cotton-mixture dress in red or navy, hand-embroidered and smocked in the Philippines, 3 to 7 years, £1.9 from Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, London SW1; Schiefield Leeds; Little Shop, Ashburton, Devon.

From C & A's recently-launched "10 to Teens" range, grey, satin-look Bermudas £8.99, under loose, black brushed cotton top with satin inserts £9.99, 10 to 16 years from C & A, West End and selected branches.

Another from C & A's range: pretty, sophisticated, silky jacquard dress, bousing low on the hips, 10 to 16 years, £17.99, West End and selected branches.

A smashing look plus a famous label: Saint Laurent's simple black velvet

bodice has a high throat ruffle and spreading, silky sapphire blue skirt printed with a black squiggle, 7 to 10 years, £5.99 from Harvey Nichols.

Enchanting little grey, taffeta-look dress strewn with tiny damask roses, the white, lace-edged collar and cuffs bordered with minute seed pearls, 2 to 6 years, £4.50 from Harvey Nichols.

Breezily demure, a grand foil for fresh young skins, white-collared black velvet dress, 3 to 10 years, £23.95 to £29.95 from Laura Ashley, 7-9 Harriet Street, London SW1, and main country branches.

A sheeny, taffeta-look dress, low-waisted and gently striped in grey, plum and green, teamed with a delicate white, petal collar, 8 to 13 years, £27.95 from Harvey Nichols.



Sketch and report
by BERYL HARTLAND



Getting bright designs on industry

THERE is more going on in the way of Government-aided activity in the design field, in its broadest sense, than ever before.

The recent Investment in Design exhibition at London's Design Centre, celebrating the success of the Design Advisory Service Funded Consultancy Scheme, linking firms needing better design input with designers able to give it to them, is the most obvious tangible result.

Last week the Council for National Academic Awards with the Department of Trade and Industry published a report on the need to educate potential industrial managers on exploiting design and has set up appropriate pilot schemes at three polytechnics.

And last week there was the first British Contract Clothing Exhibition, where the bread-and-butter area of clothing manufacturers, who are also the mass revenue earners, sell to the major chain retailers whose labels the clothes will bear. The particular

LEFT: Mr John Butcher M.P., Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Industry.

interest here is to sell such own-label ranges abroad and the exhibition is backed by the British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, many of whose projects are Government-funded through the British Overseas Trade Board.

Most of the design incentive has come from the D.T.I. but, on the all-important education side, the Department of Education and Science is also involved. Under their auspices

the Business and Technical Education Council has held meetings round the country entitled Design by Experience, aimed at encouraging better links between industrial employers and students of art and design, with a view to offering students short-term placements in industrial firms.

To show the importance of design across the Government departments, one of the speakers at the second seminar was John Butcher, Under-Secretary of State for Industry and the man who has become most identified with putting over the design message.

It was apparent that British industry was not making use of the huge pool of British design talent.

D.T.I. two years ago, shortly after the Prime Minister started the ball rolling with the Downing Street seminar on product design and market success that led to the founding of the Funded Consultancy Scheme and other proposals.

His background is not in design but he said: "I was firmly bitten by the bug within two months of

joining this department. I found myself meeting very talented, bright and provocative people and wondered why they went unrecognised, when they would be stars in Italy or France, and I was determined to find ways to maximise their contribution."

He also found massive evidence that all British environments — home, work and leisure — contained many examples of design manufactured abroad.

It was apparent that British industry was not making use of the huge pool of British design talent.

"I refuse to believe that the British public are visually illiterate," he said. "On the contrary, a sophisticated design awareness has resulted in too many foreign imports, to satisfy demand."

But there are, he feels, cultural problems in the attitudes of both industry and designers. "There has, until recently, been an antipathy towards the

singled out for special aid is the textile industry and, here, Mr Butcher works in conjunction with Mr Norman Lamont who, as sponsoring Minister for the textile industry, is aware of the importance of design in this field and has become known as the Government's "Mr Fashion."

Both Ministers are concerned that not just the high-fashion end of the trade should be highlighted and made attractive to designers but also the "bread-and-butter" section where most of the revenue accrues.

Textiles, interior design

and other art areas have been traditional avenues for women designers, but the Department is keen to encourage them into other disciplines.

"Women have much to contribute in areas many of them may never have considered, like cars, industrial design and street furniture," said Mr Butcher.

The main aim is to keep design firmly in the public and industrial eye, to give it wider exposure. It's gratifying that it is being discussed more now, both in industry and in financial institutions, who eventually must have a major say."

Before the rush begins...

THE Christmas season this year in America officially begins today. Until now, the Great Consumer Society has shown little sign in the stores or television commercials of an awareness that there are only 27 shopping days left before Christmas.

What holds them back? It is Thanksgiving Day, to my mind the nicest holiday on the American calendar. The fourth Thursday in November, the one really non-commercial day of celebration in the whole year, celebrated in Congress in a joint resolution in 1941.

Traditionally, it is a time for family reunion. Everyone makes an effort to get back home for the celebration. An estimated 38 million Americans were to move this year. The airlines said their internal flights were practically fully booked, and lots of reservations were made two months in advance. It was their busiest time of the year, they said, more so than Christmas, when many people take skiing holidays or go down South.

This great national holiday, as everyone in America knows, commemorates the harvest reaped by the Plymouth Colonists in 1621. After a year of privations and near-starvation, they gathered their meagre harvest and shared a Thanksgiving for survival. Four wild turkeys, corn, squash, sweet potatoes, pumpkins and nuts, formed the fare, shared with the local Indians, and largely provided by them.

The memory of those early settlers' hardships and survival is now part of America's heritage. At one Thanksgiving dinner we went to the host unembarrassed, told the story in his own words before the meal started.

It is the one day in the year when Americans gloss shop and enjoy a family get-together. The stores are closed, and even the supermarkets normally open from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., shut their doors for this one day of the year.

The day is observed by church services throughout the States and parish halls offer free meals to the poor. This year the local churches said they provided more meals than ever. The fare is the same for everyone, basically the ingredients of the first Thanksgiving, but the preparation is more sophisticated. Everyone in America sits down to roast turkey, cranberry sauce, glazed sweet potatoes, creamed squash, corn muffins and pumpkin pie and pecan tart.

Do the Indians celebrate? For the integrated Indians it's a pretty much acquired, standing holiday. For the majority of tribes, it is a reservation. None west of the Mississippi, the day is taken as a holiday, too.

But from today the full force of American sales pressure is on for Christmas.

Moyra Beeston
IN WASHINGTON

THE TEACHER WHO STAYED ON

MICHAEL CLOSE could fairly be described as an anachronism. A very British schoolmaster, with a Cambridge degree, he chose to make his life on the Indian sub-continent where he arrived in 1937. Nearly 50 years later he is still there, still teaching and with as few possessions as he had then.

In the Rajputana Rifles during the war, he ended commanding a company of Pathans — the tribesmen who were to keep him attached to the North-West Frontier for the rest of his life.

I had been teaching in Delhi before the war and settled easily into India," he said. "I intended to stay there afterwards. But the Pathans were so friendly, happy and intensely loyal that, when I heard of a job going in Peshawar I came here instead."

Here, of course, since partition, is Pakistan, but to Michael it is the Pathan home and above all...

"I suppose I settled into a routine of just being in Peshawar and going home on leave once every three years," he continued. "In the 50s I used to eat home-cooked for Peshawar but gradually this attitude has changed and now I think there is a balance between England and here."

Indeed, his room is that of an ascetic. The narrow bed, deal wardrobe and desk framed by postcards of idyllic English country scenes is reminiscent of a missionary's cell; even more so when you notice the crucifix incongruously placed above a splintered shaving brush. "Yes," he said at my unspoken question, "I am Anglo-Catholic leanings in my youth and

still read theology for pleasure."

Was he a happy man? He thought at some length and answered what he obviously regarded as an impolite question courteously. "I've done what I wanted to do," he said simply. "I suppose I should have thought more about the future, but I never thought about it at all. Even my adopted sons sort of came about. By then it was too late to plan for even such a limited family."

Now in their early 20s, these "sons" are two Pathan boys whose education Michael has paid for since they were about

eight years old. At that time Michael was in charge of a hostel at Islamia College to which casual workers from Afghanistan attached themselves.

One family's son was knocked down by a rickshaw and needed regular hospital treatment. Michael found himself taking the child there and grew attached to him.

"Then there is the magnificent mountain scenery, but what I love most is the real Pathan country, the rugged red, barren hills of Kohat district."

Michael was born in Golders Green. It is a long way from the North-West Frontier, but there seems little doubt that he would prefer to die, as he has lived, among his beloved Pathans.

became part of the family and had a marvellous time."

What remains of Michael's family is a brother in Bournemouth, an aged aunt and uncle in Richmond and various cousins whom he sees on his now bi-annual visits to England. "I also spend a month in my old college at Cambridge and even went to France for the first time for years, doing a tour of the French cathedrals. Rome was the next on my programme. I have seen less of Europe than I might have done if I had returned home. I miss certain books and I've never learned about modern music which I feel I should have done. Yet, as far as I had any strategy in life, I was set on staying here. I've never regretted it."

We could have gone on talking all night. He discussed the decline in educational standards, the problems of administration, particularly in the hospitals, where cleanliness is not all it should be. But he returned constantly to what has kept him in Peshawar — the friendliness and smiling faces of the Pathans.

"Then there is the real Pathan country, the rugged red, barren hills of Kohat district."

Michael was born in Golders Green. It is a long way from the North-West Frontier, but there seems little doubt that he would prefer to die, as he has lived, among his beloved Pathans.

A haul of patterns from the past

THE chance to create your own beautiful patterned silks, or maybe cotton or wallpaper, and to resurrect an old craft industry is coming up at Christie's South Kensington with the auction of a unique collection of hand-printing blocks by leading designers of the 18th and 19th centuries.

Discovered in a Victorian warehouse due for demolition, the 400 or more blocks were once used by David Evans and Company and their predecessors to stamp the finest silks with swirling patterns, peacock feathers and Paisley, darting butterflies, swallows and dolphins and parades of mystical Egyptian figures.

But, as screen printing gradually took over after the last war, the blocks fell out of use and were left to gather the dust in a building on the Old Dover Road at Crawford in Kent. There they were tracked down by an amateur collector from Gloucestershire, Mr Richard Stephens and his partner just before the place was flattened.

Mr Stephens, whose business is in oil, had begun collecting textile printing blocks in the early 1970s but it seems that most have been destroyed or dispersed by the firm that used them. He said: "I found very few indeed before this. But these blocks are among the best and the rarest because they were made for printing silk."

Since Mr Stephens and his partner acquired them four years ago about 20 have gone to museums around the world and a large proportion of the remainder, now rechristened the Central Collection by Mr Stephens, are being sold on Tuesday chiefly, he said, because of the problem of storage.

The blocks are mostly carved wood but some are cast metal and in certain cases they are attractive as antiques in themselves. They are an example of a printing technique which dates back 3,000 years and, though many are less than a foot square, they often took two

or three months to make.

Unfortunately, records of buyers at Christie's will be subsumed in the auction.

Some were used to print dress materials and a few were probably for furnishings, but most were for shawls, hand-

kerchiefs and headscarves, including the 18th-century blocks purchased by the Cheapside silk merchant David Morris.

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THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1984

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A PLAIN WARNING

WEDNESDAY'S NONSENSE in the Commons was rather more than nonsense. Constructive tumult from the back-benches we know about, the protest sometimes boorish, sometimes brave, not always invalid of one individual (IRENE WARD or TAM DALYELL) can be understood. On Wednesday, however, a group of MPs behaved like a coercion pack on a street corner. There was a whiff of "extra-parliamentary opposition" paradoxically within the chamber itself. A number of members evidently wish to operate on the margins of physical force politics where parts of the NUM have long resided. The Speaker, Mr BERNARD WEATHERLING, coped very well indeed, giving a brief chance for civility to re-assert itself and then cutting the craziness short by abrupt suspension. What we have to fear is that this will not be a brief intermezzo, but that such overflows of street politics will become commonplace. There are enough people in parliament who hate and despise parliament as the product of fraudulent petty bourgeois arithmetic, to organise this sort of outing whenever they wish.

No naming took place, perhaps because the failure to punish MICHAEL HESELTINE for his solo endeavour with the mace some years ago may have inhibited action. But practical rules must be worked out for a coming session in which the anti-parliamentary parliamentarians try to smash rational debate. Punishment is a much underutilised mechanism for stopping people from doing things. Were the Speaker in the next few days to set out his own code of consequences he could help parliament and his own authority enormously. One and two day suspensions are worse than useless; they are sought after, they constitute maximum publicity and minimum tribulation. If you are going to martyr somebody, martyr him properly! Suspensions for group protesters and for all users of violence should have a minimum tariff, say three months, and should entail loss of salary. At the discretion of the Speaker the term should rise steeply. The place for extra-parliamentary opposition should be, in every sense the words will bear, outside. Unless very specific and very hard things are promised quickly we have a season of low, barbarous delights before us.

A LESSON FOR THE UNIONS

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO determine the extent to which the pre-strike ballot clauses of the 1984 Trade Union Act contributed to the collapse of the Austin Rover pay strike. Even without the new legislation it was always probable that the BL shop stewards were going to face considerable difficulties in maintaining a united front. Plants were divided between those earning high productivity bonuses and those which were not. Workers were divided between the skilled engineers and electricians who receive substantial overtime payments and the men on the assembly track who do not. There seems little doubt, however, that the company's willingness to make use of the Act's provisions by issuing injunctions and threatening to seek contempt fines at least hastened the strike's denouement. By claiming that the shop stewards had rigged the outcome of mass meetings and by forcing the issue of a secret ballot, Austin Rover's management succeeded in stripping the strike of all legitimacy.

The lessons of the abortive Austin Rover strike for trade union leaders are threefold. The first is an old one—find out the mood of your members. Conscript strikers do not impress determined and strong-willed managements. Secondly, face up to the fact that the people you represent approve of the idea of secret ballots and do not think that your objections to them amount to a row of beans. Finally, do not fool yourself into thinking that denouncing laws you happen to dislike will make them go away. Principled opposition is one thing, but to refuse obedience to the law is futile.

As time passes, it becomes clearer just how clever and effective the Government's step-by-step strategy to reform the trade unions is proving. By moving gradually, the Government has always found itself responding to public opinion rather than attempting to lead it. That is as it should be—astuteness is a higher political virtue than brute courage. Inevitably, it will take some time before the full impact of all the legislation which has been passed since 1981 is felt. It does not seem over-optimistic, however, to look forward to a time when unions are more democratic, more responsive to their members' wishes and less tied to one political party than they are today. Further measures to curb the monopoly bargaining power of trade unions may well, in the interests of the unemployed, who find themselves priced out of work, prove necessary, but the Government is entitled to feel quietly pleased with what has been achieved to date.

UNESCO: A BOLD DECISION

THE GOVERNMENT IS TO BE congratulated on its decision to give notice at the end of this year of withdrawal from Unesco. After some wavering, it has overcome the natural conservatism of the Foreign Office and resisted the pressure applied by various Commonwealth Governments in recent weeks. The petty cuts proposed for the BBC external service and the British Council, by contrast with Unesco estimable organisations, are another matter.

Unesco is an inefficient, politicised, mismanaged and partly corrupt organisation which even its friends find difficult to defend. Nonetheless it has done some good things and no doubt could again. It is very important that the countries which remain part of Unesco, and most particularly those Commonwealth countries which have been pressuring us to stay, should understand that Britain is opposed to the practices, not the principles, of the organisation. In his statement to the Commons yesterday, Sir GEOFFREY HOWS made clear that these practices were reformed Britain would not leave at the end of next year. One may well doubt Unesco's ability to reform itself, yet it could be done, and one act would make it possible. That is the resignation of Mr AXAPATI MAHTAR M'BOW, the Senegalese Director-General who has been so intimately associated with Unesco's 10-year decline, and his replacement by a figure acceptable to all sides.

The threatened departure of Britain, and the actual departure of the United States at the end of this year, may not in themselves undermine Mr M'BOW's very considerable pride. But if several other European Governments said that they would leave unless Mr M'BOW went, it is possible that some Third World countries could find him a pleasant sinecure. These countries know that Unesco, starved of funds by the West, will perish. The way to save it in the long term is for other Western nations to follow our example.

PETER PATERSON sees the miners' president losing a war he does not know how to end but for which the blame must be passed to others

EVEN if the steady drift back to work by the miners is not quite on the scale predicted by the National Coal Board, it ought to be sufficient to demonstrate even to Arthur Scargill's diehards that the game is up. Every national union leader I have spoken to in recent weeks agrees that by any normal standard of industrial relations there is nothing more that can possibly be gained by continuing the strike.

But the dispute in the coal industry is not by any means "normal." It cannot be compared even to the two national mining disputes of 1972 and 1973-4 under the leadership of Lord Gormley: both of these could be claimed as a victory, the latter—given its political consequences—an overwhelming victory. But both came within the recognisable standards of industrial warfare. Both were preceded by a ballot of the members, and both ended when the leadership of the National Union of Mineworkers judged that its objectives had been achieved. The miners went into these strikes united, and they went back united to work.

Mr Scargill is dangerously close to presiding over a defeated rabble. After nearly nine months, important sections of the union have been working throughout. Others, seeing no scope for further negotiations and fed on with the needless sacrifices they have made, are now drifting back to work.

*

YET Mr Scargill continues to hurl defiance at his allies in the mining areas as though total victory were still within his grasp.

He must know that this is no longer possible. Unless Government assurances on fuel supplies are completely wrong, or unless there is a dramatic change of heart by the members of the key unions in rail and road transport, the docks and the power stations, there will be no power cuts this winter, no three-day week, no economic stranglehold which might force surrender by the Board and the Government.

It is fashionable to deride Mr Scargill's generalship—and with good reason. He has maladroitly arranged that the strike should be preceded by an overtime ban which, after four months, had already financially weakened his members. Scared of submitting his case to a national ballot (which he would almost certainly have won) he adopted his regional domino strategy, which got around the requirements of the rule book but undermined the legitimacy of the strike.

He wildly underestimated the amount of coal stocks, while overestimating the willingness of other workers to come to the aid of the miners. In pursuit of unconditional surrender, he failed to exploit the substantial concessions made by the Board, particularly in the settlement with the pit deputies' union, Nacods.

Now he shows no sign of being

Tory 'supergrass'

finds misfortune

IAN GOW, the Housing Minister, may today ruefully reflect on the vicissitudes of political fortune.

Only a few months ago he was being confidently discussed as a leading contender for the post of Northern Ireland Secretary, and with it the Cabinet seat he has always coveted.

As a dry-as-dust Thatcherite he has always appeared to enjoy the Prime Minister's full confidence. Indeed, as her PPS, he gained the nickname "supergrass" among Tory MPs, for his reports back to No. 10.

But all that seems to have changed. Earlier this month Gow threatened to resign over a proposed £600 million of Housing cuts.

As a result at a highly-charged meeting with Mrs Thatcher just before Cabinet she accused him of being a "socialist."

I gather that the Prime Minister added ruefully: "Sometimes I wonder if there are any Tories in the Party besides me."

Soviets cruise home

THE NATIONAL Union of Mineworkers is not the only political organisation in this country receiving subventions from the Soviet Union—Westminster Conservatives are also the recipients of "Red gold."

The second prize is in the "Two Cities Ball" raffle held at the Savoy on Dec. 4, by Tories from Westminster and City Conservative associations this year happens to be a cruise for two to the Caribbean aboard the Soviet ship, Taras Chevchenko.

Cunard and P&O who usually advertise in the ball programme failed to contribute to this year's festivities in aid of Conservative party funds, so the Russian cruise company CTC Lines not only filled the breach but offered the holiday worth £5,000. This may cause considerable embarrassment to the British companies who have been complaining to the Government that their Russian counterparts are severely undercutting their business.

This week's *Watton-under-Edge Gazette*, dealing with a visit to the Bristol Hippodrome by the Welsh National Opera, reports: "Act on the agenda is WNO's spell-binding production of Puccini's 'La Bohème', featuring favourites like Rosalind's 'Young Finn Head in Frazer' and Mussel's waltz song 'Story of a scoop...'"

IF ANY credit is due for the success of BBC Television News' scoop which alerted the world to the tragedy of the Ethiopian famine it should go to a reader published in the Sovetskaya Kultura newspaper.

The reader asks why Russian manufacturers "persist in putting buttons in certain places on trousers when the whole world switched to zips long ago; why foot-

those of his supporters repelled by Mr Scargill's powers of manipulation.

Mr Kinnock is also aware that the more he distances himself from Mr Scargill the angrier this makes Labour supporters in the constituencies. The Left may have its doubts about Mr Scargill, about his tactics, above all his ambitions, but support for the miners has become their touchstone, and Mr Kinnock wriggles at his peril.

What he lacks, of course, is the kind of praetorian guard which industrial matters could once be guaranteed to defend a Labour leader. The major TUC unions, which are also affiliated to the Labour party, know what Mr Scargill is up to, but they have shied away from doing anything about it. What they are uncomfortable with in Mr Scargill's mind as scapegoats for the miners' defeat.

In their case there may be some justice in the charge. At the TUC congress in September the leaders of the trade union movement made promises to the miners that they must have known they could not keep. How easy now for the miners to claim that they were let down by the TUC just as their forefathers were in the aftermath of the General Strike in 1926.

There are worse things in life, though, than to be designated a scapegoat. The duty of the TUC to bring the strike to an orderly and dignified end, since Mr Scargill seems to have no idea of how to go about it, is becoming plainer each day.

IF they are to be scapegoats, let them at least be effective scapegoats. The TUC chairman Mr Jack Eccles has already declared that the national union centre should take over the negotiations: since it is clear that the Board has gone as far as it possibly can to assuage the fears of the miners about their future, such a takeover would imply ending the strike, with it being made clear to the members of the NUM that there is a collective trade union loyalty higher than that accorded for so long to Mr Scargill.

At least that course, which has valid constitutional authority, would take some of the heat off Mr Kinnock. But the Labour movement—and particularly Mr Kinnock, Mr Eccles, Mr Norman Willis and the TUC General Council, plus the working miners, the pit deputies, the steelworkers and the lorry drivers—had better resign themselves to their fate: singly or collectively, by omission or commission they have, in Mr Scargill's book, betrayed the miners—and, by extension, socialism as well.

LONDON DAY BY DAY

iated permits to visit the country. He and the BBC correspondent Michael Buerk eventually got to the famine area by hitching a lift on an airplane owned by an American charity, which gave up a day's shipment of grain to allow the crew to see the state of the starving victims.

The film the team brought back

has certainly brought the famine to the attention of the world—the seven minutes the agency transmitted has been seen in 98 countries, including China and the Soviet Union and appeared on 600 channels in the United States alone.

...

and near disaster

AN ITV camera crew recently recording a rare interview with the Queen had the misfortune to suffer the heart-stopping moment every television technician dreads.

Halfway through the interview, with the Queen in full flow, the crew's camera packed up because of a flat battery.

Despite the sudden appearance of beads of sweat on his forehead, the cameraman pretended that he was still filming while an assistant changed the battery. The soundman, whose equipment was independently powered also carried on as though nothing had happened.

As a result, when the TV5 film,

entitled "All the Queen's Horses,"

is shown at Christmas, only about a minute of vision will be lost and this I'm told will be edited to make the break indiscernible.

Chip off the old block

THE FIRST job to be undertaken by Michael Sayers Phillips, when he is installed on Thursday as the new master of the Glaziers Company will be to hand over the rent for the Glaziers' Hall in Montague Close near London Bridge.

The hall is part of a building owned by the Co-operative Insurance Company and, in what has become a tradition since the livery took over the premises in 1978, the peacock crest is symbolised by a piece of glass.

Sayers Phillips, a London solicitor whose detailed knowledge of glass-work is questionable, has wisely refrained from raiding his conservatory. Instead he has commissioned Alfred Fisher, an assistant to the court of the Glaziers Company, to create a plaque made from the finest piece of lead crystal produced in the last year of existence of the famous old Whitefriars Glassworks which sadly folded in 1980.

Cunard and P&O who usually

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their Russian counterparts are

severely undercutting their busi-

nesses.

...

Forgotten forces

PRINCE PHILIP is to head a major fundraising drive to help colonial veterans who fought for King and Country" in the days of Empire but who are now forgotten or ignored in their newly independent lands.

Incredibly, there are still up to six million former colonial servicemen

who fought with the Indian Army,

the King's African Rifles and other proud regiments.

Colonel Guy Stocker, Secretary

General of the British Common-

wealth Service League, which will

launch the appeal next year, tells

me that many of the hardship cases

among the old campagnes and their

widows are distressing, with some

third world countries actively

hostile to these veterans.

One recent case was a Burmese

woman found starving on the steps

of a temple in Rangoon clutching

only some medals. Her late husband

turned out to have joined with the

Oxfordshire Light Infantry in 1935.

I'm all right Jap

AUTOCAR magazine reports that

Richard Friend, the sales director of Subaru U.K. for the past 10 months,

has left the company "on amicable

terms."

PETERBOROUGH

In search of scissors

SIR—I recently went into a well-known

multiple store to buy a pair of kitchen

scissors. Most of those on show were

of Japanese origin. The best ones bore

the name of an English firm which is

an household name for cutting tools.

The scissors were made in Finland.

What on

Land 'swap' brings prime sites offer to Soviet embassy

By CHARLES LAURENCE

THE Russians have been offered two prime sites in London to develop major new embassy enclaves in a diplomatic swap for a new British embassy in Moscow.

One of the sites covers numbers 1 to 7 Kensington Palace Gardens, known variously as Millionaire's Row or Embassy Row, and will almost certainly involve demolition of most of the listed buildings there.

The second site is at 245 Warwick Road, near Olympia in West Kensington, where the Russians are expected to build a forbidding wall enclave with flats, a swimming pool, sauna, gymnasium and school for diplomatic children.

The offer of the sites was revealed in a Parliamentary answer by Mr Tim Renton, Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office, to a question from Sir Brandon Rhy Williams, Conservative MP for Kensington, who has led protests battles against previous schemes for a "Kensington Kremlin."

Diplomatic duels over embassy buildings in Moscow and London go back to 1952 when Stalin, in one of the last acts of his rule, issued a formal notice to the British to quit the 19th century mansion on the south bank of the Moscow river which they still occupy.

Sources of irritation

The Moscow embassy faces the red brick walls and gilded domes of the Kremlin, and the sight of the Union flag fluttering beyond their office windows has become a fabled source of irritation to the Politburo.

Sir Anthony Acland, Foreign Office Permanent Under-Secretary, is due to visit Moscow at the end of this month to inspect two sites on offer from the Kremlin further down the river in the area known as the foreign quarter.

A spokesman at the Foreign Office said that the formal decision to exchange "suitable sites" had been made in 1964, but this year had proved favourable for negotiations as the Crown Leases on the Soviet buildings in London were up for renewal, giving Britain a negotiating stance to equal Stalins original notice to quit.

The British have hung on to



Private road no escape for drink-driver

DRIVING to the pub along a private road is no protection from the drink-driving laws, Lord Justice ROBERT GOFF and Mr Justice McCULLOUGH ruled in the Appeal Court yesterday.

"Although the buildings there are listed, I would not be opposed if they come forward with good plans for replacement buildings that are in keeping with the area."

"I know this will anger some of my constituents, who object to the removal of even a flake of plaster, but one has to be realistic. This site is disconnected from the rest of the avenue and has already been heavily developed."

Sir Brandon led the successful protest against an earlier scheme to let the Russians develop the site of the old Kensington Barracks in Church Street.

SPORTSMAN CLEARED Not on highway

Jeff Gutteridge, the pole-vaulter, was acquitted at Bow Street of a drink-driving charge, because he had not been on the public highway. Mr Gutteridge, 27, of Sussex Close, Slough, who came 11th in the Los Angeles Games, had been at a Lancaster House reception attended by the Prime Minister, for the British Olympic team, on Sept. 4.

He was questioned by police as he left the "restricted" car park near an entrance to St James's Palace.

DRIVE-CHARGE M P FINED

Dr John Cunningham, 45, Labour MP for Copeland, in West Cumbria, and Shadow Environment Secretary was found guilty by Wigton magistrates yesterday of careless driving on the A595 between Carlisle and Cockermouth on May 29. He had denied the charge. He was fined £35 with £54-51 costs.

A cyclist, Angela Robinson, 14, from Torpenhow, Cumbria, was injured when she was thrown on to the bonnet of Dr Cunningham's car.

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Interest paid on 7 day deposit accounts reduces by 1/2% to 6% p.a. with effect from 23rd November 1984.

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The Police Graduate Entry Scheme.

During this term, Police Graduate Liaison Officers will be visiting all universities, polytechnics and most colleges in the country to talk to undergraduates about a career in the Police, and the special entry scheme for graduates.

This scheme is for applicants who are considered to have the potential for accelerated promotion to the rank of Inspector and beyond, early in their career.

WHO CAN APPLY? You may apply if you are a Graduate, or in the final year of any full-time degree course. You must be under 30 years and meet the physical requirements. Any University or CNAA degree is acceptable.

Furthermore if you are still studying, we'll let you know if you've been accepted under the scheme before you start your last term.

HAVE YOU GOT WHAT IT TAKES? The Police have a growing need for highly qualified men and women who are able to cope with the increasing intellectual challenges of Police work.

Your ability and potential will be used to the full in combating the increasingly complex problems which today's society poses for the Police.

You will find the work demanding, satisfying and a real challenge, but have you got what it takes?

SPEND A FEW DAYS WITH US AND FIND OUT. We're inviting final year undergraduates to spend a few days with us on a Familiarisation Course from 2nd to 5th January 1985. We shan't hide anything, you will accompany Police Officers on their normal work.

That way you'll really find out what the job is about, both in its pleasant and less pleasant aspects.

WHAT ABOUT SALARY? If you're 22 or over when you join, you'll earn at least £8,010 (£9,783 if in London). On top of which there's free accommodation or a rent allowance - maximum £260 to £2,433 a year, depending on the area you work in.

INTERESTED? If you think you might be interested in a Police career, please contact your careers adviser now or clip the coupon below. But don't hesitate too long. Places on the Familiarisation Course are limited and the closing date for applications is 3rd December. The closing date for the Graduate Entry Scheme is 25th January 1985.

To Supt John Harris BA, Room 553, Home Office, Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT. Please send me your new booklet on Careers for Graduates in the Police and application form for...

The Police Graduate Entry Scheme □ The Familiarisation Course □

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

University/Polytechnic/College _____

My Degree Course _____ Ends _____

POLICE OFFICER

IF YOU'VE GOT A LOT TO OFFER US, WE'VE GOT A LOT TO OFFER YOU.

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FORWARD TRUST GROUP

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MATCHING THE CHANGING NEEDS OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

Burnett interim pleases market

A MAINTAINED 4p net interim dividend for Burnett & Hallamshire was enough yesterday to push the group's shares 5p higher at 165p, despite interim pre-tax profits down again—this time from £4.9 million to £2.4 million.

The country's biggest private coal producer is suffering from the miners' strike. Only one of two "Rexco" plants is open and the company has no NCB mine waste to re-process.

On the other hand, its fuel transportation business and coal importing side has gained. The South African side is at last back in profit.

Elsewhere, California property developments are being scaled down which in the short term will have little effect on profits but will cut balance sheet gearing. For the long-term future, the group has high hopes to develop a major Northern Ireland "brown coal" find.

Gieves

THE lower pre-tax profits that Gieves Group has reported this time because of expansion plans have materialised with the first half's turnover down from £497,000 to £370,000, reducing earnings by 1.2p to 2.7p.

Moreover, the group now feels that all year's profits will be down on the figures indicated in this account for 1983—say yields 2.2p-2.3p. This does not affect the intention to effectively increase the dividend total at 2.5p and there is a 1p (equal to 0.75p) interim on Dec. 22.

MONEY & EXCHANGES

STERLING held up well against a slightly weaker dollar yesterday but lost ground to major Continental currencies on oil price fears and news of cuts in British bank base rates.

By the close, the pound was up from \$2.65 to \$1.275, its inter-

Tricentrol

TRICENTROL'S third quarter has produced a net profit of £10.2m against £7.3m in spite of a swing in petroleum revenue tax credit of £90,000 to a £2.2m loss. This gives the group £21.3m (£16.1m) of the nine-month mark and earnings of 25.2p (19.1p).

Below the line there is an extraordinary charge of £50.9m nil relating to a loss on sale of certain United States assets and a deferred tax credit. In other areas of the group again overshadowed by engineering division losses.

Floors: Interim dividend brought forward—1.6p 10p 10.8p 18p payable Dec. 22.

MLMT Computing: Full year pre-tax profit £55.0m. Turnover £1.5bn. Final dividend 2.25p, making 2.5p. 18p. Forward orders good.

Cement Roadstone Holdings: Second interim in lieu of final, 1.7p 2.1p 4.05p. Forward orders good.

Firstar Leekster (Holdings): First half p.t. profit £1.05m (£90.000). T/o £15.8m (£12.5m). EPS 1.26p (1.05p). Extraordinary item charge £43.000 (nil), relating to estimated costs of moving the plant from Groningen to Warrington, thus rationalising all group's British performing in one location. Int div 0.375p, payable Jan. 2. Order book up 6.5%, half profits should top 2.5p.

United Computer and Technology Holdings: First half p.t. revenue £53.000 (£40.000). Dividends and interest received £1.01m. Turnover £1.29m (2p). NAV up 160p to 1.10m and no interim. Board anticipates a moderate increase in dividend.

James Crean: First half p.t. profit £1.05m (£100.000). T/o £27.1m (£3.4m). EPS 7.58p (5.8p). Int div 4.5p (4.125p), pay Feb. 8.

Significant improvement in trading and financial position.

Wardford Investments: First half p.t. revenue £2.05m (£1.95m). Gross rents and services charges £1.05m (£2.47m). Net profit £1.05m. Int div 6.5p (6p), pay April 6.

Feeder Agricultural Industries: First half p.t. profit £5.000 (£2.500). After interest charge of £500,000 (£1.000). T/o £10.7m (£7.5m). Dividend, EPS 0.25p 11.26p. No NAV. Good performances in other areas of the group again overshadowed by engineering division losses.

Fulmer Investment Trust: Full year p.t. revenue £106.700 (£100.000). Gross revenue £29.1m (£20.000). EPS 1.26p (£1.25p). Turnover £1.5m. Final dividend 2.25p, making 2.5p. 18p. Forward orders good.

Bunter Saphir: First half p.t. profit £5.000 (£2.000), including £1.000 (£1.000) from associate companies. T/o £28.1m (£2.25m). EPS 4.27p (4.05p). NAV per capital share 3.74p (3.68p). Second interim, in lieu of final, 3.05p, pay Dec. 31, making 3.25p 3.5p.

Higsons Brewery: Full year p.t. profit £1.05m (£1.000). T/o £27.5m (£27.5m). Operating profit £1.22m (£1.48m). EPS 1.91p (1.15p). Extraordinary debit £5.18m (nil). Deferred tax, final div 5.5p, pay Feb. 7, making 9.5p.

Walkers & Staff Holdings: First half p.t. profit £1.05m (£1.000) after £2.000 start-up costs less new warehouse. T/o £16.000 (£2.000). EPS 1.84p (2.71p). Annual dividend.

S & U Stores: First half p.t. profit £16.000 (£14.500). T/o £16.000 (£14.500). Again no interim dividend.

General Stockholders Investment Trust: Full year net revenue available for ordinary £24.500 (£29.400) after tax of £20.300 (£26.400). Total income £17.000 (£17.000). EPS 1.84p (2.05p) equal to 2.05p. Last year, prior charges part 1.725p. Final dividend 1.47-2.1p, payable Jan. 17, making 2.05p (equal to 2.1p).

RTD Group: First half profit, preexceptional, £6.5m and tax, £5.000. EPS 0.60p. Exceptional charge re BPC Engineering £67.000 (nil). Turnover £3.44m (£3.08m). Again no interim

dividends.

In passing, BPCC also sacks the Waddington chairman but lets shareholders know that the managing director can stay on—although he may have other ideas himself, having worked within the BPCC group in the past.

Waddington claims that BPCC never tried to reach agreement on terms but, since the Waddington share price at 555p, is already 55p ahead of the 500p BPCC cash offer, talks would obviously have been futile to both sides.

BPCC at least plans to

make the coming takeover battle short, even if it is going to be bloody. It will not be extending the bid beyond the first closing date on December 13, which by implication means that if it plans to increase it the uplift will have to come within the next week.

A forecast from BPCC would not, to be fair, be especially valuable to Waddington shareholders as they are being advised to cash. BPCC has dropped its plans for a convertible loan stock alternative because of the recent weakness

in Boots' share price.

That weakness was not, however, without foundation.

BPCC's printing division has met with "teething troubles" in bringing up major new items of equipment into full production.

A profits shortfall there will be outweighed by substantially increased property profits, says BPCC, confirming that the full year will see a figure "very substantially" in excess of the £22 million of 1983.

Group pre-tax profits of £78.8 million for the opening period, up 22.7 p.c. from the £65.1 million a year earlier, were seen as better growth than either Sears Holdings or Marks and Spencer and is going great guns for Christmas.

Meanwhile, BPCC reckons Waddington will make around £5.5 million, which would also represent a very substantial increase on 1983-84 profits—but although one would never guess from the tone of the BPCC letter.

In passing, BPCC also sacks the Waddington chairman but lets shareholders know that the managing director can stay on—although he may have other ideas himself, having worked within the BPCC group in the past.

All the running is being made at the retail level. The latest figures include a £5.8 million NHS benefit, against a £6.1 million charge in the comparable period. Stripping that out knocks the retail profit growth back from an astounding 71.4 p.c. to a still impressive 14.4 p.c.

Gross margins have widened again and the volume of over-the-counter sales was up by 5.6 p.c.

Boots has at last come up

THE QUESTOR COLUMN

No extra time in Waddington game

WHAT a check, British Printing & Communications Corporation fights shy of making a profit to forecast for itself but quite extends the bid beyond the first closing date on December 13, which by implication means that if it plans to increase it the uplift will have to come within the next week.

A forecast from BPCC would not, to be fair, be especially valuable to Waddington shareholders as they are being advised to cash. BPCC has dropped its plans for a convertible loan stock alternative because of the recent weakness in Boots' share price.

Boots is prepared to play the game and produce interim results with the next week or so. Until then shareholders should either stay put or sell in the market.

With new retailing ideas which are paying off, the cookshops tax profits to June 30 up from £5.65 million to £6.32 million.

Current order books are lower than this time last year with the United Kingdom down from £220 million to £201 million and overseas down from £90 million to £74 million. This must cast a cloud over medium-term growth prospects.

In the short term the group's liquidity will stand it in good stead. Cash balances are standing at around £53 million and receivable due to be received this year should be enough to help profits up to around £16 million against £14.5 million pre-tax.

The cash balances should also allow it to come through what threatens to be a very tough period in better shape than most of its rivals. But its shares, in the United States and Northern Europe in the United Kingdom, are gaining market share.

But nevertheless, standstill second-half profits on the industrial side are the best hope.

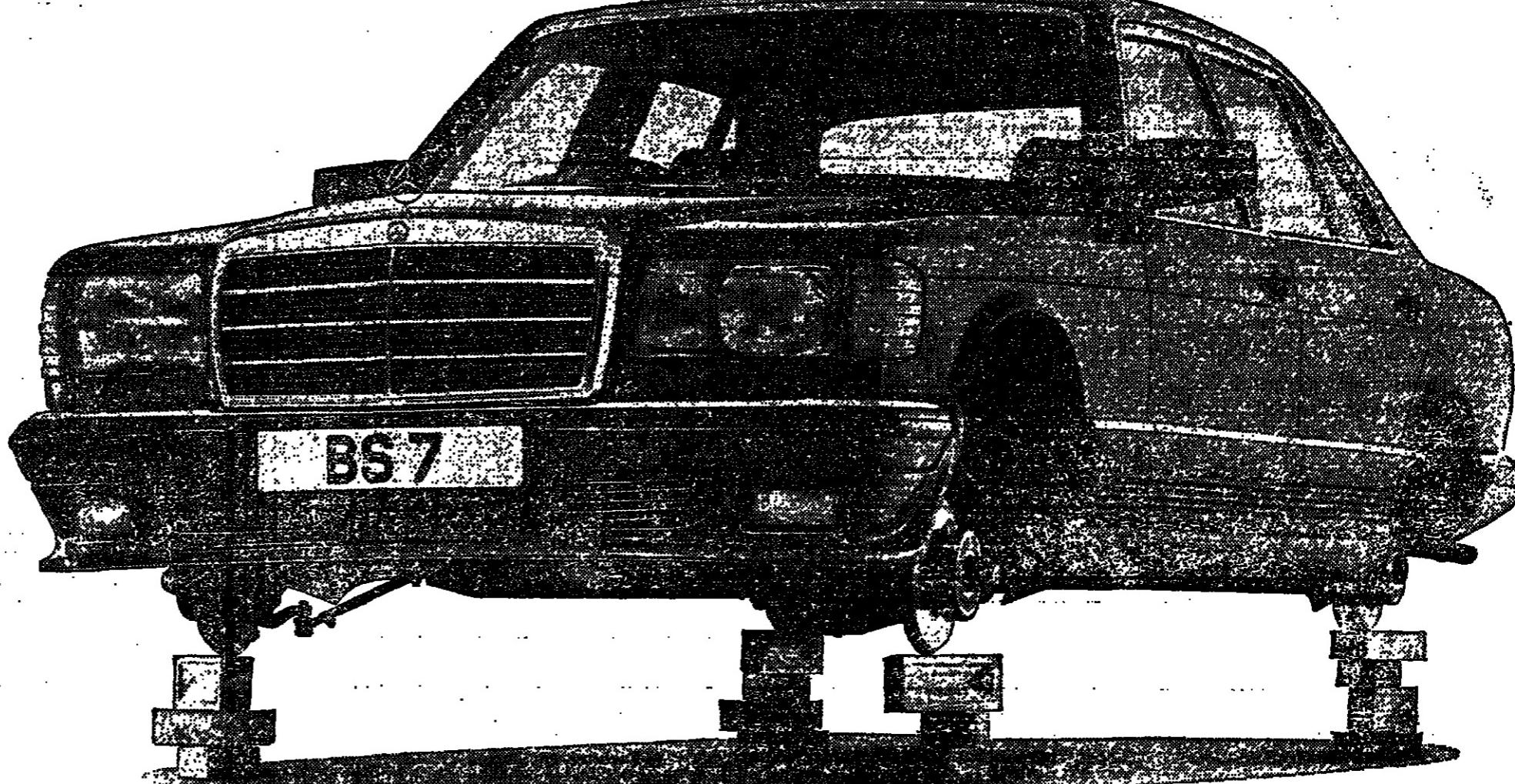
International ambitions will be furthered by the latest acquisition which gives Boots full distribution and marketing capability in Germany and North America. Acquisitions are still being sought.

Meanwhile, the shares, at 204p, have had a good run and responded to profit-taking yesterday. They rank a bold tag on pre-tax earnings ratio of 14 times, but should be bought on weakness.

French Kier under a cloud

FOR a contracting company to keep profits moving ahead these days is an achievement in itself and French Kier can take a

HOW BARRY SHEENE'S CAR BEHAVES IN TRAFFIC WITHOUT THE NEW SECURICOR GO-PHONE.



Portman Building Society

Investors

The Society announces revised investment rates from 1st December 1984 on its attractive current range of savings accounts.

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Ordinary Shares	6.75%	9.64%
Flexi-Plus Shares	8.50%	12.14%
Premium Shares	8.75%	12.50%
Gold Seal Shares	9.00%	12.86%
Regular Savings Shares	8.25%	11.79%
Young Generation Club	7.50%	10.71%

† Annual Interest Rate is variable and assumes income tax paid at 30%.

The rate of interest on Deposit Accounts and previously issued Share Accounts is reduced by 1% net p.a. from 1st December 1984. SAYE accounts are unchanged.

Borrowers

The rates of interest on all mortgage accounts will be reduced by 1% per annum on 1st December 1984. Borrowers will be notified of the effect of the reduction on their monthly payments.

Administration Centre: Portman House, Richmond Hill, Bournemouth BH2 6EP.

Tel: 0202 292444.

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Authorised by the Building Societies Investors' Protection Scheme.

When it's stuck in traffic, it doesn't matter how fast your car is. Because without the Securicor Go-phone inside it, it's not going anywhere.

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In fact, it's the first telephone in a car that works just like a telephone.

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Features include call forwarding, call waiting, conferencing, no-answer transfer and voice activated calls so you don't have to take your hands off the wheel.

They also have the back-up to complement this technology: 40 service centres and 50 mobile workshops, more than any other company in Britain.

What's more you'll be hard pressed to find anyone else who can

offer the choice, installation, servicing, and running costs all in one package.

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NOTICE TO INVESTING MEMBERS

The following rates of interest will apply from

22nd November, 1984.

PAID UP SHARES 6.75% 9.64%

SUBSCRIPTION SHARES 8.00% 8.43%

SOVEREIGN SHARES (closes) 8.30% 8.86%

THE ABOVE RATE ALSO APPLIES TO THE SOVEREIGN MONTHLY INCOME ACCOUNT

SOVEREIGN SHARES (closes) 8.60% 8.29%

Interest on all other shares and deposits will be reduced by 1% with effect from 23rd November, 1984.

All new accounts opened from 23rd November, 1984 will be subject to the rates of interest quoted on the Society's leaflet.

NOTICE TO BORROWERS

The rate of interest charged to existing borrowers will be reduced by 1% and details of new subscriptions will be forwarded to Members shortly.

SKIPTON BUILDING SOCIETY
Head Office, High Street, Skipton
BD23 1DN. Telephone: (0756) 4591.

MEMBER OF THE BUILDING SOCIETIES ASSOCIATION AND THE INVESTORS PROTECTION SCHEME.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL MARKETS
COPPER: London Wire 50c. On
Contract £1,091.50. £1,091.50.
Metals £1,175.50-£1,178.50.
Alum. £1,091.50-£1,112.50.
Zinc £1,091.50-£1,102.50.
Cadmium: 100c. On Contract £1,091.
Metals £1,091.50-£1,102.50.
Tin: Standard On Contract £9.650.
Metals £9.650-£9.750.
Copper: 100c. On Contract £1,091.
Metals £1,091.50-£1,102.50. After
close 100c. On Contract £9.650.
Lead: Standard On Contract £1,091.
Metals £1,091.50-£1,102.50.
Zinc: Standard On Contract £9.650.
Metals £9.650-£9.750.
Nickel: Standard On Contract £1,091.
Metals £1,091.50-£1,102.50.
Cobalt: Standard On Contract £9.650.
Metals £9.650-£9.750.

LONDON COFFEE MARKET

Coffee: 100c. On Contract £1,091.

Metals £1,091.50-£1,102.50.

LONDON GRAIN MARKET

Wheat: London 100c. On Contract £1,091.50-£1,102.50.

Zinc: Standard On Contract £9.650.

Nickel: Standard On Contract £1,091.

Copper: Standard On Contract £9.650.

LONDON GOLD FUTURES

100g. On Contract £1,091.

LONDON SILVER MARKET

Silver: Standard On Contract £1,091.

Metals £1,091.50-£1,102.50.

PLATINUM: 100c. On Contract £1,091.

LONDON COMMUNITY MARKETS

Flour: 100c. On Contract £1,091.

Metals £1,091.50-£1,102.50.

Wheat: 100c. On Contract £1,091.

Metals £1,091.50-£1,102.50.

LONDON COTTON MARKET

Cotton: 100c. On Contract £1,091.

Metals £1,091.50-£1,102.50.

LONDON COFFEE GARDEN

Coffee: 100c. On Contract £1,091.

Metals £1,091.50-£1,102.50.

LONDON SILVER MARKET

Silver: Standard On Contract £1,091.

Metals £1,091.50-£1,102.50.

COFFEE: 100c. On Contract £1,091.

Metals £1,091.50-£1,102.50.

COFFEE: 100c.

Remember, remember, the 28th of November.

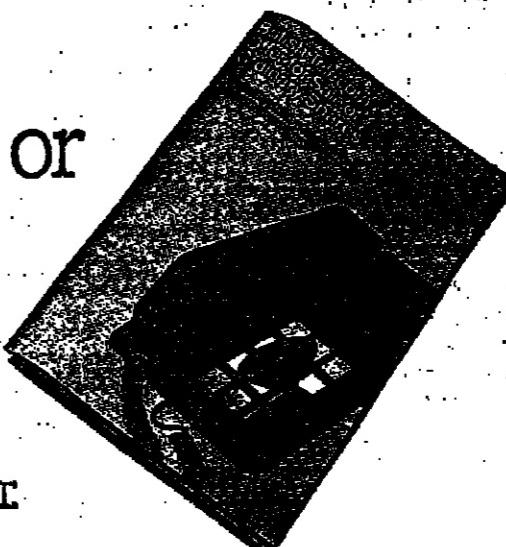


November 28th is the last day for receipt of applications to buy British Telecom shares.

A prospectus, containing an application form, will be published in this newspaper tomorrow.

Or you can get one from your bank, post office, or financial adviser.

Are you going to share in British Telecom's future?



SOFT GOING NO PROBLEM FOR HALLO DANDY

By HOTSPUR (Peter Scott)

HALLO DANDY, last season's Grand National winner, has become 16-1 favourite to repeat that success at Aintree on March 30, following an impressive performance yesterday at Kempton Park, where he won the Lutteur III Handicap Chase by 20 lengths.

Rain turned the ground really soft, and this caused misgivings for trainer Gordon Richards, who regards Hallo Dandy as best suited by good going. His worries proved needless because Hallo Dandy was always travelling and jumping well.

Another Breeze disputed the lead with him until a mile from home, then tired, but a fresh challenge came from Herr Capitan.

Hallo Dandy appeared to have taken his measure when the hard-riding Herr Capitan came down at the penultimate fence.

This left Hallo Dandy clear, and he coasted home from the tired Cross, who had finished well ahead of him at Worcester last month. Another Breeze was third, while Herr Capitan remounted to finish fourth.

Hallo Dandy had been top-priced at 20/1 with Hills for the 1985 Grand National before yes-

terday's rain will have improved his prospects. Drummond's Hennessy, the 100-1 outsider, has trimmed his Newbury odds from 9/1 to 7/1. They have also cut Cannonball's price by a point to 7/1. Another Breeze will ride Cannon Dandy.

Burrrough Hill Lad, running a strong racecourse, and the Hills' offer of 5/2 has been reduced to 8/4. Peter Cross, Paul's Brig's amateur jockey, is interrupting an overseas business trip to look for the mount on this 8-1.

Lester Piggott rides Strawberries Road in the Japan Cup on Sunday, becoming the Australian five-year-old's sixth different jockey in as many races since he began a world tour of important courses last summer.

Gary Moore, third on Strawberries Road in the Washington

TODAY'S NEWBURY SELECTIONS

HOTSPUR	COURSE CORR.	FORM
1. 8-Augustine the Grain	—	1. 0-Against THE GRAIN
2. 0-Glenfer	2. 0-Classified	2. 0-Co Member
2. 2-Coutright River	2. 2-The Reject	2. 2-Coutright River
3. 0-Sold Oak	3. 0-ROSE RAVINE (map)	3. 0-Sold Oak
3. 30-Prince Rambor	3. 30-Cross Wood	3. 30-Batu
HOTSPUR'S DOUBLE—Brunton Park and Three Shillers (145 Avr)		
TONY STAFFORD—Isaac Newton (30)		

today's win. Immediate plans for him are unsettled, but Richards says that Hallo Dandy will take a rest during mid-season.

Richards' treble

Richards enjoyed an excellent day, with Freeflow and Pebble Island winning at Haydock Park. The stable's only disappointment was with Conclusive, who ran poorly after being backed from 10/1 to 5/1 for the Newbury Park race.

The Dickinson stable is also in fine form, and Brunton Park is napped to continue its winning run in the Radio Trent Handicap Chase at Nottingham today.

Earls Brig, the Scottish-trained hope for tomorrow's Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup, and Brunton Park is 15-8 lengths at Newbury, but Harry Lad and Why Forget, who both finished behind Brunton Park, have been good subsequent winners.

Drumlanigan backed

Three Shillers is considerably improved this autumn. Still on a favourable handicap mark, he can make the Symington Handicap Hurdle at Ayr his fourth consecutive win.

Classified, third in Restless Shot's Cheltenham race two weeks ago, will be hard to beat

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The Dickinson stable is also in fine form, and Brunton Park is napped to continue its winning run in the Radio Trent Handicap Chase at Nottingham today.

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Drumlanigan backed

Three Shillers is considerably improved this autumn. Still on a favourable handicap mark, he can make the Symington Handicap Hurdle at Ayr his fourth consecutive win.

Classified, third in Restless Shot's Cheltenham race two weeks ago, will be hard to beat

today's win. Immediate plans for him are unsettled, but Richards says that Hallo Dandy will take a rest during mid-season.

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Final tour change, perhaps

SOME light was thrown on the rest of England's tour itinerary yesterday with the news that the third Test in Calcutta will start on Dec. 31, and the visit to Bangladesh for a one-day international, planned for Jan. 2, will not now take place, writes Michael Carey.

The only other change involves the one-day international at Cuttack which will now take place on Dec. 27. The four-day game against East Zone at Gauhati, which was feared might have to be rescheduled, will start on Dec. 19 as originally planned.

These changes, caused by the decision of the Indian parliamentary elections on Dec. 24, have apparently been agreed after several days of negotiations between the Test and County Cricket Board and the Indian Board of Control.

If the reader detects a certain hesitancy, even now, it is because the English manager, Tony Brown, while aware of the agreed changes, had still not been notified officially by the Indian Board in Rajkot last night when news agency broke the news. That however, is often the way of things in this part of the world.

LATEST FIXTURES
Nov. 25-Dec. 3: FIRST TEST (Bombay).
Dec. 3: One-day international (Panaji).
Dec. 19-23: v East Zone (Gauhati).
Dec. 27: One-day international (Cuttack).
Dec. 29-Jan. 5: THIRD TEST (Calcutta).
Jan. 9-13: v South Zone (Hyderabad).
Jan. 13-18: FORTH TEST (Mysore).
Jan. 20-24: v West Indies (Mysore).
Jan. 25-27: One-day international (Mysore).
Feb. 1-5: FIFTH TEST (Kolkata).
Feb. 7: One-day match (Delhi).

GATTING LEADS CHARGE ON WEST ZONE

By MICHAEL CAREY in Rajkot

ENGLAND built sensibly and, eventually, vigorously on the foundation they had given themselves in Rajkot yesterday. Mike Gatting following Tim Robinson's century with an unbeaten 136, made from only 133 balls, before a declaration was made at 458 for three.

On a still blameless pitch, this was no more and perhaps slightly less than expected. In many ways their performance in the field, in making West Zone work hard to reach 66 for one from 29 overs had extra merit, given the conditions.

Not least encouraging at that stage were eight overs from Cowans who, bowling fast and straight, induced more than one hurried stroke, an achievement not to be underrated on this pitch and with luck could have picked up more than the wicket of Kalyani.

Robinson, having driven the first of the day over the boundary, reached three fours without a ball and was timing his strokes impressively when Sandhu, armed with the new ball, got through him with a yorker.

Message to middle
Gatting's hundred was marked by his best for the first hour in which he made only 13 and eventually departed trying to assault Gose. He was immediately hit by his mate's first ball, which hinted that his mate was already on sternest contests ahead.

Hard straight drives

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Tel. Horsham (0403) 63342.



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The Manager will also supervise a small staff of about five which doubles in the busy season to ensure that customers' orders are processed and despatched on the required date.

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The scoreboard

ENGLAND XI—First Innings	
R. T. Robinson	b. Sandhu 116
D. V. Guttting	b. Sandhu 101
M. J. Lamb	not out 136
Total (2 wickets dec.)	458
Fall of wickets	1-136; 2-146;
Did not bat	R. M. Wilson, V. J. Merchant, P. J. W. Allom, N. G. Cowans
Scored	Kulkarni 22-5-58-0; Sandhu 31-7-92-11; Kohli 3-0-12-0; A. J. Lewis 1-1-1-0; Rupinder 4-1-10-0; S. Patel 1-6-3-0; Venkateswaran 1-0-7-0; Patel 1-0-11-0.
W/C: ZONE—First Innings	
I. S. Chettri	not out 31
R. D. Venkateswaran	not out 26
Total (1 wicket)	1-30.
Fall of wicket	C. J. Pench
Did not bat	R. Venkateswaran, V. J. Merchant, P. J. W. Allom, N. G. Cowans
Scored	Kulkarni 22-5-58-0; Sandhu 31-7-92-11; Kohli 3-0-12-0; A. J. Lewis 1-1-1-0; Rupinder 4-1-10-0; S. Patel 1-6-3-0; Venkateswaran 1-0-7-0; Patel 1-0-11-0.
W/C: ZONE—Second Innings	
I. S. Chettri	not out 31
R. D. Venkateswaran	not out 26
Total (1 wicket)	1-30.
Fall of wicket	C. J. Pench
Did not bat	R. Venkateswaran, V. J. Merchant, P. J. W. Allom, N. G. Cowans
Scored	Kulkarni 22-5-58-0; Sandhu 31-7-92-11; Kohli 3-0-12-0; A. J. Lewis 1-1-1-0; Rupinder 4-1-10-0; S. Patel 1-6-3-0; Venkateswaran 1-0-7-0; Patel 1-0-11-0.
W/C: ZONE—Third Innings	
I. S. Chettri	not out 31
R. D. Venkateswaran	not out 26
Total (1 wicket)	1-30.
Fall of wicket	C. J. Pench
Did not bat	R. Venkateswaran, V. J. Merchant, P. J. W. Allom, N. G. Cowans
Scored	Kulkarni 22-5-58-0; Sandhu 31-7-92-11; Kohli 3-0-12-0; A. J. Lewis 1-1-1-0; Rupinder 4-1-10-0; S. Patel 1-6-3-0; Venkateswaran 1-0-7-0; Patel 1-0-11-0.

ENGLAND XI—Second Innings

G. Foster, c. Petrie, b. A. Patel 116

R. T. Robinson, b. Sandhu 101

D. V. Guttting, not out 136

A. J. Lamb, not out 136

I. S. Chettri, not out 31

R. D. Venkateswaran, not out 26

Total (2 wickets dec.)

Fall of wicket 1-30.

Fall of wicket 2-30.

Fall of wicket 3-30.

Fall of wicket 4-30.

Fall of wicket 5-30.

Fall of wicket 6-30.

Fall of wicket 7-30.

Fall of wicket 8-30.

Fall of wicket 9-30.

Fall of wicket 10-30.

Fall of wicket 11-30.

Fall of wicket 12-30.

Fall of wicket 13-30.

Fall of wicket 14-30.

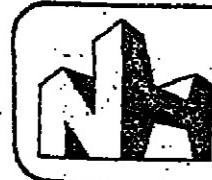
Fall of wicket 15-30.

Fall of wicket 16-30.

Fall of wicket 17-30.

Fall of wicket 18-30.

F



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FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES, WEDDINGS, etc., on Court: Page 28 a line.

Court Page announcements cannot be accepted by telephone.

BIRTHS

BARKER—On Nov. 20 at Hereford, County Hospital, a son, James, to John and Joyce, a son, Samuel, and a daughter, Linda, to Alan and Linda **BEECHAM**. — On Nov. 20 at St Peter's Hospital, Cheltenham, a son, Andrew, to Andrew and a daughter, Sophie, to Philip and Sophie **BEECHAM**. — On Nov. 21, 1984, Andrew and Sophie, a girl, Sophie.

BENNETT—On Nov. 19 at home, 10, Lanes and Antiques, a second son, Tom, to Linda and Andrew.

COTMAN—On Nov. 16 at Sandringham House, Norfolk, a son, Nicholas, to Charles and Camilla, Prince and Princess of Wales, and a daughter, Sophie, to Prince and Princess of Wales.

DAVIES—On Nov. 16, to JANE INGRAM, a son, Alexander, and a daughter, Sarah.

DURRANT—On Nov. 19, 1984, in Notting Hill, London, a son, Christopher, and a daughter, Sophie, to Christopher and Sophie **DURRANT**.

HODGES—On Nov. 21, to David and Helen, a son, Matthew, a brother for Sophie **GOWAN**. — On Nov. 21, to Angela and Richard, a son, William, a brother for Sophie **HODGES**.

KIRK—On Nov. 20 at St Peter's Hospital, Cheltenham, a son, Daniel, and a daughter, Sophie, to Daniel and Sophie **KIRK**.

MARSHURST—On Nov. 19, 1984, in Notting Hill, London, a son, Christopher, and a daughter, Sophie, to Christopher and Sophie **MARSHURST**.

MARSHURST—See **HODGES**.

PINE—On Nov. 20, 1984, in Mayfair, London, a son, Alexander, and a daughter, Sophie, to Sophie and Christopher **PINE**.

Pritchard—On Nov. 22 at St Peter's Hospital, Cheltenham, a son, Nicholas, to Michael and Sophie **Pritchard**.

RAYNER—On Nov. 20 at St Peter's Hospital, Cheltenham, a son, Christopher, to Christopher and Sophie **RAYNER**.

REED—On Nov. 21, to Robert, a son, Matthew, a brother for Sophie **REED**.

TAYLOR—On Nov. 6, in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, a son, Robert, a brother for Sophie **TAYLOR**.

WILLIAMS—On Nov. 21 at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, in Finsbury Park, London, a son, Nicholas, a brother for Sophie **WILLIAMS**, and a daughter, Sophie, to Sophie and Robert **WILLIAMS**.

WILLIAMS—On Nov. 21, 1984, in St Peter's Hospital, Cheltenham, a son, Christopher, to Christopher and Sophie **WILLIAMS**.

WILLIAMS—See **WILLIAMS**.</